

Disability Now

This month

4
MONTH IN PARLIAMENT

7
MOBILITY ROADSHOW
All the fun of the car fair

9
THE ME GENERATION
Mind or matter?

10
EXHIBITIONS
Furniture and microtech

12-13
PHOTOGRAPHY
DN's survey plus advice on picking your shot

14-15
ARTS
Touching RA sculptures and a moving cp play

16
PROFILE
Alan Toy

18
SHARE YOUR PROBLEMS
God and disability

20-23
CLASSIFIED



Shadow Minister for the Disabled, Alf Morris, talks to Jane Campbell and John Evans of the British Council of Organisations of Disabled People as they lobbied politicians about the funding discrepancy between BCOOP and other large charities for disabled people, in July. Nearly 200 disabled people were at Westminster Hall with their banner 'RIGHTS NOT CHARITY' to protest.

DAVID NICHOLSON

ICA loophole hits parents of boarders

Many parents with disabled children who board part-time in residential schools could be losing out financially because of a loophole in the rules governing Invalid Care Allowance (ICA).

To qualify for ICA you must spend at least 35 hours a week caring for a person who receives attendance allowance.

Parents whose children come home every weekend get ICA (£26.20) but those whose children come home every fortnight do not.

The reason for this seems to be that because ICA is a weekly benefit, running from midnight Saturday, the hours of care put in on the Sunday are counted with the following week but cannot be "rolled over" to the week after.

Sue Twose's son Ricky, 11, goes to the Yorkshire School for the Deaf in Doncaster. She gets attendance allowance for Ricky, the eldest of four children, but not ICA, except in the holidays, because he comes home every fortnight. "It's been quite a big drop in our income."

She is convinced other parents are also losing out and has sent letters to all 25 residential schools in her area asking parents

to get in touch.

Caroline Slingsby from Matlock, Derbyshire is one of them. Her son Guy, 7, is profoundly deaf, multiply disabled and dependent on others for his needs. Until April Mrs Slingsby did get ICA every other weekend and for holidays but weekend payments dropped in April. They have now stopped altogether because she is taking her case to a social security appeal tribunal.

She used the money to buy in care because after a heart attack last year she is not supposed to lift Guy. "My circumstances haven't changed - I still put in more

Continued on page 2



Guy Slingsby: ICA stopped

Poll tax exemption campaign

David Blunkett, Labour's spokesman on the poll tax, is leading a renewed attempt to exempt 160,000 people with severe dementia from paying the community charge or poll tax.

The present rules exempt people who are severely mentally impaired due to accident or injury but not those with severe dementia.

John Selwyn Gummer, Minister of State for Local Government, has said: "It would be extremely difficult to determine at what point in the course of the disease any assessment might best be carried out."

But this has been disputed by Professor Elaine Murphy, Professor of Psychogeriatrics at Guy's Hospital, London. She said: "The idea that doctors cannot distinguish between severities of dementia in a simple fashion is just wrong."

If the government believes there are good reasons for exempting people with severe

Continued on page 3

Griffiths wins through

Local authorities are to be responsible for care in the community: assessing the needs of disabled and elderly people with the help of GPs and others, designing suitable care arrangements at home or in residential centres and securing care delivery.

The Government's long awaited decision, announced in the Commons on 12 July by Secretary of State for Health Kenneth Clarke, marked a victory for the pragmatists.

Eighteen months ago a report by Sir Roy Griffiths favoured extending overall responsibility for community care to local elected authorities who already supply many services. (He had been commissioned by the Government following an Audit Commission report which found that much of the £6 billion spent on

community care was being wasted.) But Mrs Thatcher and other ministers were known to oppose any extension of local authority powers.

Now Sir Roy's basic proposal has been accepted, along with the emphasis on local authorities being arrangers of services, rather than providers. "They should make maximum possible use of the voluntary, not-for-profit and commercial sectors so as to widen individuals' room for choice, increase the flexibility of services and stimulate innovation," said Kenneth Clarke.

The Government will hand over to local authorities the money previously paid by social security for places in residential and nursing homes, allowing for an expected increase in numbers. But local authorities will still have

Continued on page 4

Prone & Supine Boards

Freedom Stander

Corner Chairs

Therapy Swings

Potty Chairs

Foam Wedges

Bath Chairs

Tricycles

Side Lying Boards

Adjustable Tables

Rolls, Blocks, etc

Rifton

EQUIPMENT FOR HANDICAPPED CHILDREN & ADULTS

Fully illustrated CATALOGUE available free

Robertsbridge, E. Sussex TN32 5DR - phone 0580 880626

Queen honours people with disabilities

Professor Stephen Hawking, motoring expert David Griffiths, athlete Ann Trotman and Margaret Grant of the Brittle Bone Society were among those honoured in the Queen's birthday list in June.

Professor Hawking, physicist and cosmologist, author of the best-seller *A Brief History of Time*, who has motor neuron disease, was made a companion of honour. (In the same month he also

received an honorary degree from Cambridge University.)

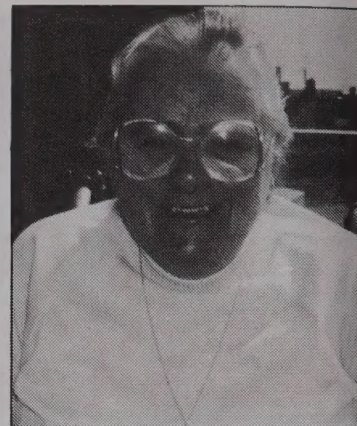
David Griffiths and Ann Trotman received MBEs, for their services to the Disabled Motorist Club and to sport for the disabled respectively. Margaret Grant is secretary of the Brittle Bone Society.

OBEs went to Hector Fowlie, ex-vice chairman and medical commissioner of the Mental Welfare Commission, and to

Christopher Holborow, chairman of the Commonwealth Society for the Deaf.

MBEs were also awarded to George Bedell, senior lecturer to the handicapped in South Tyneside; Mrs Joan Brander, founder trustee of the Winged Fellowship Trust; Mrs Pam Burridge, senior sister of the respite ward at Tadworth Court Children's Hospital; Edmond Carver, chairman of the Kent Committee for the Employment of Disabled People; John

Falloon, chairman of the North of Ireland branch of the Multiple Sclerosis Society; Mrs Ellen Jones for services to mentally handicapped people in North Wales; Leslie Mason for services to housing for the disabled; Mrs Marie Nobbs for services to the deaf; Mrs Isa Reid, chairman of the Multiple Sclerosis Society in Scotland; Alan Smith, of the National Advisory Council on Employment of Disabled People, and Mrs Sheena Tulloch for services to disabled people in Scotland.



Margaret Grant of the Brittle Bone Society.

ICA parents

Continued from page 1

than 35 hours each weekend – and the legislation hasn't been changed but what has changed is the ICA form."

The Department of Social Security now asks for the exact times of care given.

This is nonsensical to Caroline Slingsby and she wants to see the whole system changed. "It should be a daily allowance like attendance allowance. It has never been any trouble and works perfectly well."

"We have been told by a nameless girl at the ICA unit, Preston, that there are hundreds of claims just like ours."

A spokeswoman for the Department of Social Security said: "The rules have not changed. Decisions on whether the entitlement conditions for ICA are satisfied in individual cases rests entirely with the independent adjudicating authorities."

She would not comment on the apparent unfairness of the present system for parents of children who come home fortnightly. "It's a weekly benefit. That's the rules."

The Disability Alliance has decided to take up the issue by making Caroline Slingsby's dispute into a test case.

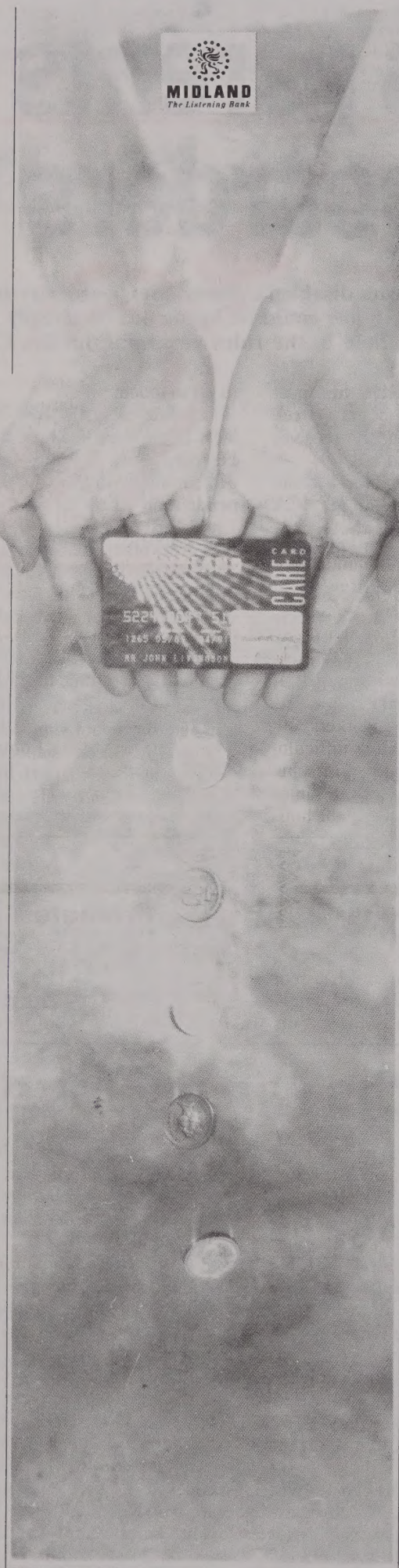
Carol Young, national development officer for Contact A Family, says it is very hard to pin down the number of parents affected, although she says she has had quite a lot of letters. Contact A Family is collecting information and asking for a meeting with Minister for Social Security and the Disabled, Nicholas Scott.

The Department of Education and Science does not know how many special schools there are in England which accept boarders.

The Education Authority Directory for 1988 lists around 450; some state maintained and some voluntary. This suggests a fair number of parents could be involved.

DN will forward letters to Caroline Slingsby or Sue Twose.

★ Parents in Cornwall who were threatened with demands for thousands of pounds after overpayments on attendance allowance (see DN April) are still waiting for Secretary of State John Moore to decide whether to charge them. "No recovery action is taking place," said David Williams of the Cornwall Money Advice and Welfare Information Service, "and the court hearing won't be til September at least."



Whenever you pay – show you care

CARE CARD Gives cash to your charity and credit for you

*Pick up a leaflet from the
address below or
call FREE on*

0800 400 469

for full written details:

The Spastics Society,
12 Park Crescent,
London W1N 4EQ.

Midland Bank will not normally give credit to applicants under 18 years of age.

Care Card is a MasterCard.
"MasterCard" is a registered service mark
of MasterCard International Incorporated
used pursuant to licence.

©Midland Bank plc 1989

Big plans for The Spastics Society

Far reaching decisions aimed to improve and coordinate services for people with cerebral palsy and to use resources more cost effectively were agreed by the Executive Council of The Spastics Society last month.

The plans include a new fundraising strategy, investment in community care and education, a new regional management structure and a special committee to manage the Society's assets.

"I believe the decisions provide the platform for an exciting period of change – an opportunity to turn an aspiration into reality," said chairman Douglas Shapland.

Of the Society's projected £51m income for 1989-90, £26.5m is expected to come from fundraising. "The new strategy aims to more than double that gross figure by 1993-4 and to substantially reduce fundraising costs," said marketing director Richard Brewster.

To achieve this target the Society will create a new department for major fundraising among companies and trusts, expand local fundraising and bring it within the central marketing

division under new regional fundraising managers. It will also improve professional training and prepare for a major fundraising campaign in two years time.

An assets group, answerable to the Council, is to handle negotiations on the management of the Society's assets and to look at all leasehold property. One of its first jobs will be to negotiate the lease on the head offices at Park Crescent.

Access for disabled people will be a priority for new offices.

There are to be six new



Shapland Young

regions: Midlands, East, West, Wales, North and a London and South East region. The management of the six region will service the eight existing regional committees.

Regional general managers

will run all the Society's services in their region – residential and day care, schools, social workers and liaison with local groups.

They will be expected to build an integrated network of services geared to the needs of the disabled user and their family, and to create partnerships with local authorities and other agencies.

The Society is to offer a comprehensive care in the community programme to its 630 residential clients over five years.

There will also be big investment in modernising the education services and improving information technology within the organisation.

The Executive Council agreed the plans almost to the day when chief executive Ken Young completed his first year with the Society.

While he was pleased that the Council had shown confidence in his leadership, he did not see the decisions themselves as momentous.

"It is the kind of thing that any complex organisation has to address if it is going anywhere," he said. "It should be considered normal."

For equal opportunity

A new equal opportunities statement from The Spastics Society says the Society is "totally opposed to discrimination of any form and will eradicate such conditions in its employment practices."

It promises to take "positive action" to redress the under-representation in its workforce of groups such as people with disabilities or from ethnic minorities, and to "foster an appropriate environment" for them.

"Technically, the Society more than meets its legal obligations but not, I believe, its moral obligations," said Martyn Dunleavy, director of finance and support services.

As a first step, the job application form has been changed and an equal opportunities monitoring form introduced. Society job adverts will carry the slogan "Working Towards Equality".

The next stage will be to introduce staff training in equal opportunities awareness, recruitment and selection.

The new policy will also apply to the Society's services.

Parents befriend parents

A befriending service for the parents of newly-diagnosed disabled children has been set up in Surrey by parents who have already gone through the experience of having a child with special needs.

Face to Face is run by 40 parents, backed by funding and administrative support from the south-east region of The Spastics Society.

The Society has paid for the parents to have training in counselling, to help them recognise their own skills and how they can help parents deeply upset over the loss of a "perfect" child.

Yvonne Crockford, whose five-year-old daughter is physically and mentally disabled, said: "We feel we are bridging a gap. The professionals are there for the children but parents are in a great deal of pain and shock."

Jacqui Bremner, acting regional manager of The Spastics Society's south-east region, said: "The scheme operates on local contact with five schemes covering the whole county. Parents have to live in Surrey to be involved. We put them in touch

through a co-ordinator."

She says that what makes the scheme different from other parent support groups is that it is very well structured. "All volunteers are supported by professionals. The back-up we offer enables the parents to give their time and expertise, without worrying about administration."

Yvonne Crockford said her own experience was "very traumatic". She would have liked someone there who understood her feelings.

"The process is a very long one before you don't cry anymore," she said. "But we have been prepared to show our feelings and encourage the parents to express theirs. The pain does ease in time."

To keep the service going, support workers for each of the schemes will put parents' names forward. They will then be asked if they want to join. Negotiations for the schemes' continued funding are going on with Mencap and the local authority.

To contact Face to Face, call Jacqui Bremner on (0737) 241251.

cial disincentive to community care as only those in institutional care are eligible for exemption," he said.

According to Ewan Davidson, director of Alzheimer's Scotland, nine out of ten doctors there are exempting people with Alzheimer's disease from the poll tax – although Scottish Office guidelines to GPs say that people with Alzheimer's are not exempt.

He says the Government's medical objections are "non-sense" and is backed by many medical experts in Scotland.

Alzheimer's Scotland is advising its members not to use the term dementia in any corres-

pondence but to stick to severe mental impairment.

The Secretary of State for Scotland has discretionary power to change the categories for exemption.

★ Leicester City Council estimates that around 670 physically disabled people in Leicester are going to lose their rate reductions for house adaptations when the poll tax is introduced in 1990.

As *DN* reported last month, disabled people who live in their own homes face poll tax bills which far exceed previous rate demands because the tax is on people and not property.



Many men went to mow: they do 40 gardens.

New life in Welsh village

A project which has integrated people with learning difficulties into a working environment and given a new lease of life to a Welsh community has won two prestigious awards worth a total of £2,000.

The Times/Royal Institute of British Architects Community Enterprise Scheme 1988/89 award and the Community Projects Foundation/Barclays Community Partnership prize were presented by HRH The Prince of Wales to members of Antur Waunfawr in London at the end of June.

Antur was set up six years ago in Waunfawr, Gwynedd, a village with about 850 inhabitants. It is run as a charitable limited company; 200 villagers are shareholders and 20 are directors.

The company bought a piece of land in the centre of the village and set about restoring dilapidated cottages and a shop with a team of about 32 workers, 20 of whom have learning difficulties. The shop will be open for business this summer and some of the workers will live in the houses


when they are ready.

Money to buy the site came from the Welsh Office and the European Commission. The company also bought adjoining land and is running a successful small market garden business.

The workforce is involved in many aspects of village life, including: regular mowing of 40 local gardens and the cemetery; supplying firewood to pensioners; helping run the pre-school play group and pensioners' club and acting as caretakers of the local Chapel. It charges £3 per hour for its services.

The assessors for *The Times*/Riba award said: "It is impossible to do justice to Antur Waunfawr without visiting it, seeing the project for oneself and listening to the villagers and workers – all of whom seem to have taken on a new lease of life."

The parents of Michael Hughes, 28, said: "He has become much more confident both socially and at home. For the first time ever we can go out, just myself and the wife. He's got the house keys now."




Mangar Promotes

EQUAL OPPORTUNITY

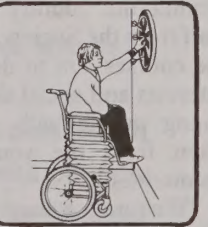
with

The Mangar Genie!



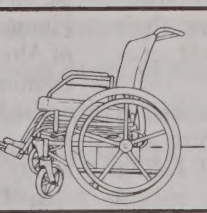
(Convertible!)






What will it do for YOU?







Make the Impossible POSSIBLE of course!

I WOULD LIKE A FREE BROCHURE ☐ A FREE DEMONSTRATION ☐

NAME

ADDRESS

DN8

For further details CONTACT: **Mangar Aids Ltd.**,
 Presteigne Industrial Estate, Presteigne, Powys. LD8 2UF
 Tel: No. 0544 267674 Sales Dept.

FACE TO FACE YOU STAND MORE CHANCE!

Poll Tax campaign

Continued from page 1

learning difficulties, she said, then to exclude severe dementia sufferers is "patently unfair".

David Blunkett has tabled an amendment to the Local Government and Housing Bill for debate during the Committee stage in the House of Lords.

He has also put down questions in the House of Commons, asking the Department of Health to make public the medical evidence supporting its position.

"These rules discriminate against those severely impaired by dementia and create a finan-



IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Student top-up loans

During a statement by Education Secretary, Kenneth Baker, on 18 June, Peter Turnham (Cons) asked for disabled students to be given extra funds and an easier repayment system. Mr Baker promised to look into it.

However, on 4 July, Robert Jackson (Cons) said that disabled students would have the same arrangements for deferment of repayment as other students, although disabled students would still be able to claim social security benefits and disability allowance where appropriate.

Orange badge

Both Jack Ashley (Lab) and Alfred Morris (Lab) called for a debate or an oral statement from the Government about including people with thalidomide who have deformed arms or no arms in the orange badge scheme. This was promised, dependent on medical opinion.

Peter Bottomley, Under Secretary of State for Transport, said that proposals to include payment by magnetic card or voucher in the Parking Bill should help. Also, a Lords amendment which was accepted on 7 July would require local authorities to display information at the entrance to off-street car parks stating the availability of disabled parking spaces.

HOUSE OF LORDS

Social Security Bill

During committee stage at the end of June a series of amendments to the bill were moved but later withdrawn.

Baroness Jeger (Lab) wanted an end to age limits for mobility allowance. Lord Skelmersdale (Cons) replied that "the new cut-off at the age of 80 is simply an interim measure, pending any further far-reaching changes which may affect mobility allowance in general". With five years to make the changes, it was withdrawn.

An amendment extending attendance allowance to the first six months of a terminal illness was dropped to await the next Social Security Bill.

Lord Carter's amendment to extend mobility allowance to deaf and blind persons and people with mental handicaps, would, according to the Mobility Alliance Campaign, involve 7,600 people and cost £10m and was moved again at report stage on 12 July. This time it went to a vote and was accepted by ten votes. (But sadly it was thrown out by the Commons the following week.)

Lord Carter's aim was to clarify a confusing situation: severely handicapped people have to apply and reapply, with no certainty that they will get the allowance, because it is granted in an arbitrary way.

He noted that disability organisations and the All Party Disablement Group have been pressing for this change since 1985 and now the Government is waiting on the publication of all the OPCS reports. Lord Carter said there was no information re-

levant to the amendments in the reports.

Answering, Lord Skelmersdale was concerned that the amendment could cost anything between £8m and £120m, based on OPCS figures of 100,000 people with difficulties affecting behaviour and intellectual functioning.

Lord Carter said it was up to the Government to choose its priorities.

The amendment now goes to the Commons for consideration.

Local Government and Housing Bill

On 4 July Lord Carter (Lab) drew attention to the consequences of the Local Government and Finance Bill for disabled people, using evidence from The Spastics Society.

From March 1990, the rate rebates previously available for dis-

abled people who had altered or improved their houses to cater for their disabilities will no longer apply. This is because the poll tax is a tax on people and not on properties.

Only disabled people on income support or very low incomes will be able to obtain a rebate on the tax.

Grants for disabled facilities are to be means tested with no account taken for the hidden costs of disability.

Home and dry

The Hearing Aid Council (Amendment) Bill was given Royal Assent on 3 July ensuring much greater consumer protection to hearing aid users.

The Water Bill was passed on 6 July after the Commons had considered the Lords amendments in two days.

Pauline Graham



Three years after the Royal Assent, only half the Disabled Persons Act has been implemented. Disabled lobbyists with half a cake outside Number 10. From left, Stephen Craddock, Colin Lowe, Mary Holland, Carol Butler, Jean Ashcroft and Rachel Hurst.

DAVID NICHOLSON

Alternative Lifestyles: spreading the word

A study of Alternative Lifestyles, the residential courses for young disabled people pioneered by The Spastics Society, was launched at a London workshop last month.

Careers advisers, staff from social services departments around the country as well as staff from the Society, heard how the courses aim to develop new interests and social skills among young people with disabilities, often from the young people themselves.

"We are saying, 'here is a model'," said Doreen Hinchliffe, "now we are looking for local authorities to start funding their own schemes and we would act as advisers."

So far Hereford has had a scheme and Hertfordshire and the London borough of Ealing have shown interest.

Sue Hennessy developed the original model for Alternative Lifestyles in 1983 with Doreen Hinchliffe, and their report, *Enlarge, Enliven, Enlighten*, traces its beginnings, its ideas, experiences and hopes for the future.

Disabled people comment in the report on how their lives have changed: one felt the course gave her "the confidence to put my disability in perspective and work

things out for myself." Another said "I gained a lot of confidence and my speech has become clearer as a result."

Members of staff, too, say how beneficial the courses have been for them: "I would defy anyone to be part of AL and remain untouched," said one.

Some people have gone on to paid employment, others have taken voluntary work, and others have taken advantage of adult education courses.

"In future we hope to form joint associations with local authorities, so that they can capitalise on our experience," said Sue Hennessy. "The great strength of Alternative Lifestyles is that it combines social services, health and education, and gives the initiative to the person with a disability."

In 1984 the first courses cost £15 per person, and this has risen to £35-£40, with a subsidy from The Spastics Society to cover the total cost of around £150 per person, excluding staff expenses.

Enlarge, Enliven, Enlighten - A Study in Alternative Lifestyles, £2.50 from the Education Division, The Spastics Society, 840 Brighton Road, Purley, Surrey CR2 2BH, tel: 01-660 8552.

Griffiths

Continued from page 1

to meet the cost of people living in their residential centres.

Mr Clarke admitted that the authorities will also need extra money for assessments, arranging care at home and buying residential and nursing home care, but he said no decision would be taken until next year's public expenditure survey.

Mr Clarke expects local authorities to produce "clear" plans for developing services, which will be inspected, and he will have the power to call for reports.

He assured the Commons that mentally ill patients would not be discharged from hospital unless adequate care awaited them outside, and he announced a new grant (another Griffiths' proposal) to be paid by health authorities to local authorities specifically for community care.

Detailed proposals are due in a White Paper this autumn, but the plans will not be implemented till 1991.

Sir Roy Griffiths was "extremely pleased" that so many recommendations had been implemented, 80 per cent according to Kenneth Clarke, he said.

He had never wanted a completely new minister, but he thought the man in the street did not understand what personal social services are, and he had wanted someone clearly designated. "It has been firmly

allocated to David Mellor and he has been committed to the report from day one".

Nor was he disappointed that no money was forthcoming yet. "I am confident that Kenneth Clarke understands the importance of the subject and he is a strong battler."

But in the debate following his statement, Mr Clarke faced widespread criticism.

Robin Cook, Labour's health and social security spokesperson, argued that without resources all the plans were "mere window dressing". No mention had been made of ways to help carers, such as respite care, he said, a point echoed by Conservative MP Sir David Price.

Mr Clarke believed a lot of the money now spent on residential care could be used to back up carers and give them support.

Many voices were raised about the 1986 Disabled Persons (Services, Consultation and Representation) Act, which has been only half implemented (see above) and includes assessment, rights of appeal and pre-discharge planning for patients in mental health hospitals.

Mr Clarke replied: "We are not bound by that Act in tackling community care."

Later he said he was not announcing a change of policy on the 1986 Act. "What we have announced today is an improvement of policy."

IN BRIEF

£15 billion for charities

A new report estimates that charities raise £15 billion a year but says they could raise still more, making it possible for them to meet social needs in a more flexible way than central or local government.

"However," the report says, "this has to be kept in perspective, and they cannot be expected to do all the Government's work."

The Royal National Lifeboat Institution gets the most voluntary donations, £35.9 million, and The National Trust has the largest income, £87.8 million.

The Harvest Charities Report, £150, Harvest Information Services, 63 St Martin's Lane, London WC2N 4JT.

Southwark report

Southwark Legal Project discovered that only one firm out of 20 questioned in their area had three per cent Registered Disabled staff, the legal minimum under the Disabled Persons Act 1944.

Two employers had not heard of the quota and 14 had one per cent or less registered disabled employees.

The Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (RADAR) has published a study of public sector employers, based on the survey, covering 160,000 employees.

It argues that non-compliance with the quota is not due to a decline in numbers of people registering, but that more would register if they thought a job were possible.

The Disabled Persons (Employment) Act 1944 £1, from RADAR Publications, 25 Mortimer Street, London WIN 8AB, tel: 01-637 5400 ext. 322.

Mencap video

Mencap, the Royal Society for Mentally Handicapped Children and Adults, has launched a new video aimed at teachers, parents, grandparents and siblings of mentally handicapped children. *The Other Children* covers stress, experiences, anxieties, and educational games for families.

£60 from Mencap Books, 123 Golden Lane, London EC1Y 0RT, tel: 01-253 9433.

International award

Stand up the real Glynn Vernon, The Spastics Society's latest video, won a major prize in an international corporate video competition in San Francisco in June.

The video, produced by Vanson Wardle Productions, won a Major Golden Reel Award in the International Television and Video Association awards - one of only 11 videos out of 2,900 entries to take a first prize.

One of the Golden Reel judges said: "The international jury felt the message that Glynn Vernon is a real person only externally different from all of us, was conveyed brilliantly."

Prince needled over vaccination

HRH The Prince of Wales has spoken out against the low level of immunisation in the UK, shown by a report published in June this year.

"I find it particularly distressing that young children continue to die or be disabled needlessly for want of immunisation," he said. "This has to be a matter of grave concern to us all."

The report - *National Immunisation Study: Factors Influencing Immunisation Uptake in*

Childhood - was commissioned by Action Research for the Crippled Child. It says that Britain's record of immunisation against whooping cough and measles is "unacceptably low".

Another epidemic of whooping cough is forecast by the end of this year, and the report recommends that immunisation certificates be a legal requirement for entry into schools, day care or nurseries.

The UK is now 21st in the

European region of the World Health Organisation's chart of immunisation levels.

Only 73 per cent of children have been vaccinated against whooping cough by the age of two, 76 per cent against measles, and 87 per cent against diphtheria, tetanus and polio.

Peckham Report, £10 from Action Research for the Crippled Child, Vincent House, North Parade, Horsham, West Sussex, RH12 2DA.



Mencap chairman Brian Rix flies in to join students at Thomas Delarue School, Tonbridge, Kent. They are working with Major Road Theatre group on a "pyrotechnic drama spectacular" taking place all day on 19 August. Open to the public.

Furniture makers win industry award

One of two runners-up in a prestigious competition sponsored by Marks and Spencer was a small company making chairs and sofas for the elderly and disabled market.

Trade and Industry Secretary Lord Young presented Kirton Design with £1,000 and a plaque in the Better Made in Britain awards in June.

The competition, which attracted 150 entries, was to reward outstanding achievement among companies employing less than 200 people and with a turnover of less than £5m a year.

Kirton was set up in 1980 by ex-teacher and nurse Martin Battye to design and supply specialist seating for profoundly and multiply handicapped people. Now it also makes suites which "would not look out of place in any high street store, yet can withstand rougher usage," he says.

The company's contribution to the market was sealed in April with a three-year contract with the NHS.

Kirton employs 53 people, 3 of them disabled.

Kirton Design Ltd, Bungay Road, Hempsall, Norwich, Norfolk NR15 2NG.



A competitor in last October's Windsor half marathon is cheered on by the crowd. Four thousand people (20 disabled) turned out, and organiser Alysia Hunt of The Spastics Society is counting on even more this year. Sponsorship comes from the building industry, and the race starts at 1 pm on 1 October. Details from Alysia Hunt, P.O. Box 42, Windsor, Berks, SL4 2NN, tel: (07538) 57979.

IF YOU'RE ENTITLED TO A MOBILITY ALLOWANCE, YOU'RE ENTITLED TO A GREAT CAR.



The Government's Mobility Allowance entitles disabled people to a weekly allowance which can be used towards the cost of leasing or buying a new car. And if you decide to use your allowance at your local Nissan dealer, not only will you get a high quality, well-equipped car, but you'll also get an additional discount - up to 17% off the price of a wide range of Nissan models.

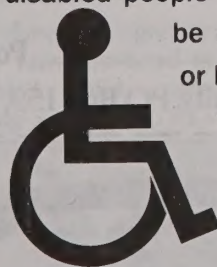
If you lease, over a three-year period, Motability will also contribute towards the cost of insurance.

And of course there's a comprehensive maintenance package included.

If you prefer, you can buy from the outset with hire purchase and a choice of repayments periods. Or talk to your Nissan dealer about other special deals. You'll still be entitled to our discounts.

Make sure you don't miss out on your Mobility Allowance - or the great deals at Nissan. Whatever model you choose, and whatever method of payment, you're clearly better off with Nissan.

Contact your Nissan dealer or freephone 0800 500 259.

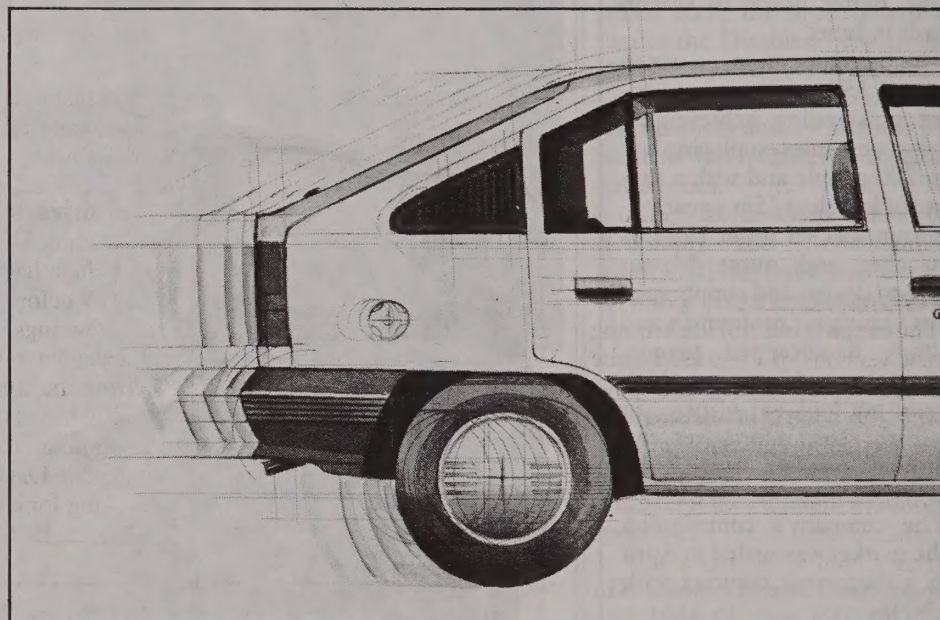
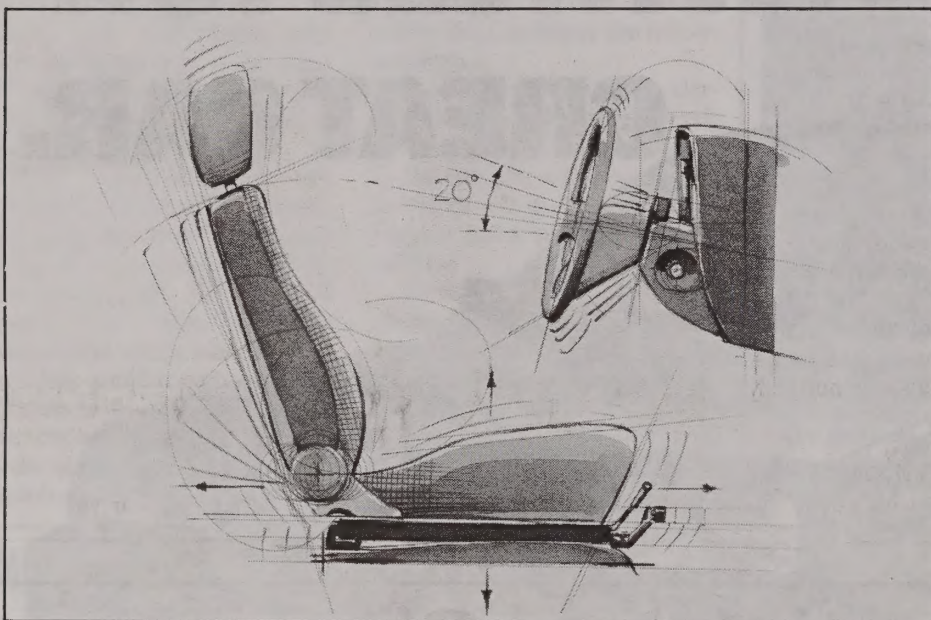
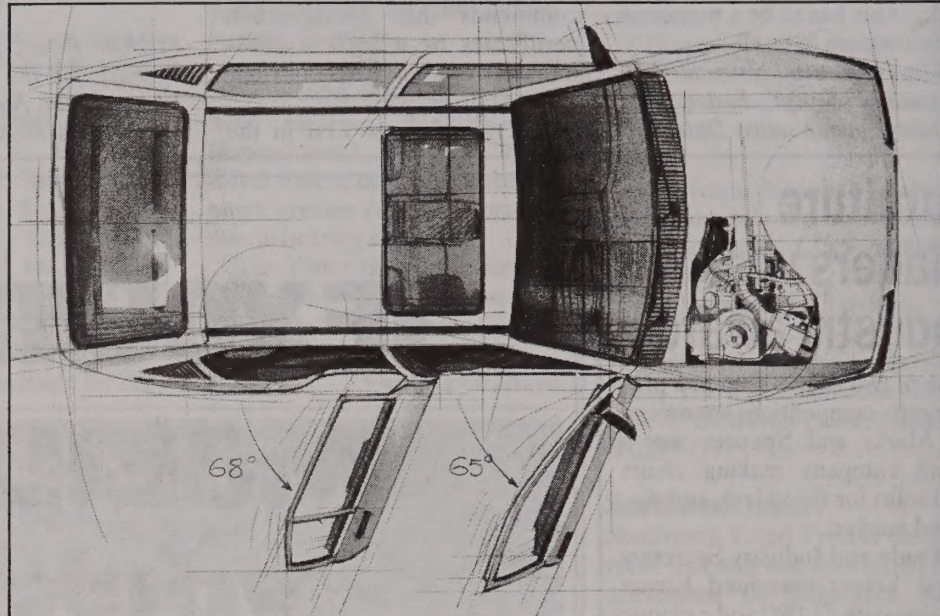
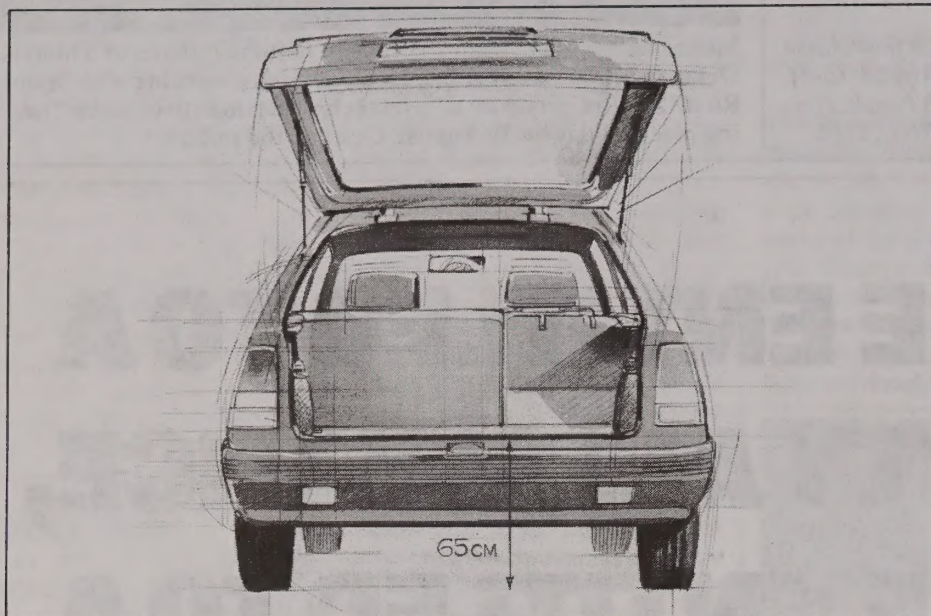


DRIVING TECHNOLOGY FORWARD.

NISSAN UK LTD, NISSAN HOUSE, WORTHING, SUSSEX.

Participating dealers only. Licenced credit brokers - written details on request.

THE VAUXHALL ASTRA. THE PERFECT GETAWAY CAR.



Vauxhall introduce the Astra.

A car with front doors that open to 65°

A car with a tailgate that opens right down to the bumper.

A car with a height adjustable driver's seat, tilt adjustable steering column, power steering and auto transmission as standard or options on most models. (So much for the boring bit. Now for some fun.)

Vauxhall introduce the Astra.

A car that delivers exciting performance even on unleaded fuel.* A car with outstanding aerodynamics and handling.

A car whose top of the range model will do 0-60 in an outrageous 7.3 seconds.

A car that's sensible. But hasn't lost its sense of adventure.

To find out more, ring the Vauxhall Motability

Helpline on 0582 696332 between 9am-5.30pm Monday-Friday.

Please send me more information about Vauxhall Motability schemes. (Please tick box)

NOVA ☐ ASTRA ☐ BELMONT ☐ CAVALIER ☐ CARLTON ☐

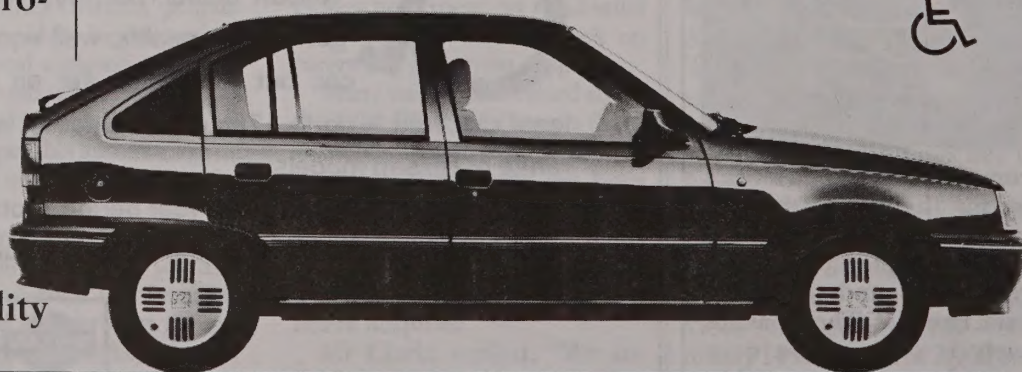
DN8

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Vauxhall Motability, PO Box 159, Dunstable, Beds, LU5 5TE.



VAUXHALL. ONCE DRIVEN, FOREVER SMITTEN.

VAUXHALL IS BACKED BY THE WORLDWIDE RESOURCES OF GENERAL MOTORS. CAR SHOWN: ASTRA GL 1.3 5-DOOR, PRICE £8,410.62 CORRECT AT TIME OF GOING TO PRESS INCLUDES CAR TAX AND VAT BUT EXCLUDES DELIVERY AND NUMBER PLATES.*ALL ASTRA'S ARE CAPABLE OF RUNNING ON BOTH LEADED AND UNLEADED FUEL OR A MIXTURE OF BOTH, ALL THAT IS REQUIRED IS A QUICK ADJUSTMENT BY YOUR VAUXHALL DEALER. ALL FIGURES MANUFACTURER'S DATA.

John Byworth reports

Sunny days, leafy lanes and a unique opportunity to see and test out vehicles, adaptations and wheelchairs lured me last month on the bi-annual pilgrimage to Crowthorne and the 4th Mobility Roadshow.

According to Ann Frye, head of the Department of Transport's disability unit, which organises the show, just under 20,000 people had the same idea, including visitors from Canada, the USA, East and West Europe.

Over the three days, there were 3,725 test drives – well up on previous years.

Many disabled people were driving a new car for the first time, and it is a great tribute to the instructors who escort often very nervous drivers on to the closed circuit that in the last three shows there have been only two minor accidents. Crowthorne must be the safest place for a driver needing a specialist vehicle to get to grips with new controls.

All the major producers were there. They now treat the Roadshow very seriously and stands have grown in size and presentation over the years.

One of the most popular spots was the pavilion devoted to adaptations, with both vehicles and freestanding demonstrations.

For passengers

The car park was full of gleaming new versions of what used to be called welfare buses and now, with the advent of dial-a-rides, are "specialist transport".

It was also good to see adaptations on vehicles designed for standard bus routes. The latest from Omni CVE, has a folding rear ramp and wheelchair clamps. One seat is lost when a wheelchair is transported; the maximum wheelchair capacity is three.

Given the more positive attitude of many new private bus operators towards disabled people, a universal conversion like this promises more accessible buses.

The latest vehicle from Poynting Conversions is a basic transit van which, with a side ramp, works out at just on £12,000. It is very easy to drive and will last for at least 100,000 miles.

As an extended family vehicle it is extremely economic and, with the basic wheelchair con-

Nearly 20,000 people at Britain's unique roadshow

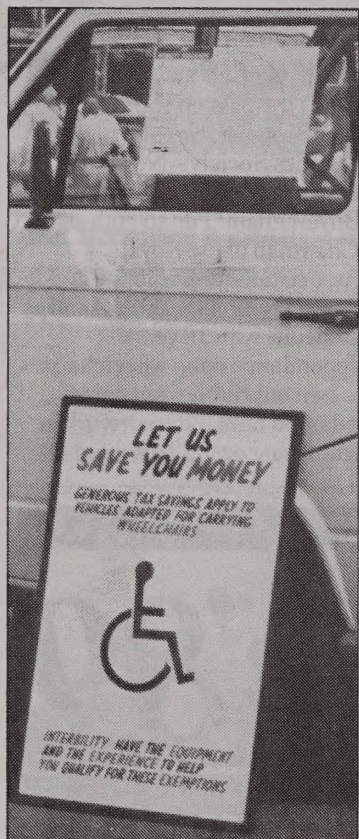


Satisfied visitor: David Trisum fits his wheelchair into a Renault 19 boot.

JOHN BYWORTH

version, could be used for daily transport, though if you claim tax exemption for a disabled person it would be unlawful to use the vehicle without the disabled person in it.

Some families are following



Eye-catching sign.

the American preference for large vans converted to carry a disabled child, rather than buying a small car. As value for

money, the van will always win.

Talking of exemptions, specialist vehicle producers are now quick to point out the savings involved. This was the first year I found salesmen specially trained to explain the tax advantages and the various finance packages available.

For drivers

The choice was good, though little which hasn't been mentioned in *DN* before.

Gowings had their famous Chairmen range in a marquee, giving the sort of space normally found in a showroom.

Among disabled visitors, I talked to David Trisum, who was looking for a car with a boot into

which he could fit his collapsible



Poynting Conversions transit van – "very easy to drive".

Are You Sitting Comfortably?

The **Alvema 400** pushchair is available in four models for young people and adults who cannot manoeuvre a wheelchair themselves. Designed with high sides and an alternative high back this chair gives comfort and security to those who have seating difficulties in a conventional wheelchair.

The **Alvema 400** provides a soft ride, with large tyres and has a built-in stabilizer for protection against tipping when the chair is unattended.

If you would like to try an **Alvema 400** for the special person in your life, please call us today to arrange a demonstration.



Please send details of Alvema 400

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone No. _____

Rainbow Rehab, P.O. Box 546, Bournemouth BH8 8YD. ☎ 0202 32651

Sole distributor for **ALVEMA** products



Towards accessible buses: the Hounslow Hoppa uses the latest from Omni CVE.

Letters to the Editor

Disability Now, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ

Orange badge transferable?

Can you please give me a definite – and legal – decision on whether or not my orange badge can be used on someone else's car when that car is being used for my convenience.

Mrs M E Vere Robbins
Much Wenlock
Shropshire

The Department of Transport tells us that the Orange Badge is issued to the person, not the vehicle, so it can be transferred to another car. The DoT leaflet The Orange Badge Scheme, says "You can display the badge on any vehicle (including taxis and hired cars) in which you are travelling" – Editor

"The Insurance Scandal"

We believe "The Insurance Scandal" (DN July) gave a misleading impression, and we were not given an opportunity of commenting before it was published.

A fair proportion of the article was based around the Channel 4 *Same Difference* programme, broadcast at the beginning of the year. I took part in the programme and during the discussion I was able to correct the misleading impression given and to explain the attitude of insurance companies.

We made available a factfile entitled *Motor insurance for the Disabled Driver*, which sets out in some detail the careful way in which insurers consider insurance for disabled drivers.

The examples you included give an extremely misleading impression of the motor insurance position for disabled drivers. The industry as a whole

attempts to be scrupulously fair at all times.

Insurance companies do have vast experience in dealing with disabled drivers as there are close to a quarter of a million motorists who have reported a disability of one sort or another to the DVLC.

I was pleased to see it was accepted in the television programme that they were unable to find a single case where a disabled motorist has been unable to find cover. Competition ensures the lowest possible premiums and the best cover.

If any of your readers would like to obtain the factfile they need only contact their nearest ABI office at Belfast, Birmingham, Bristol, Glasgow, Leeds, Liverpool, London, Manchester, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, Norwich or Southampton.

Incidentally, your article also provides readers with details of insurance companies but, in fact, none of the organisations listed are insurers. They appear to be intermediaries.

Tony Baker
Manager, General Insurance & International Affairs
Association of British Insurers
London EC4

Congratulations on a very good report on the insurance scandal. It should open quite a few eyes as to how disabled people are being discriminated against by the insurance companies.

Already I have a file of two hundred and fifty complaints, but I would like to achieve my target of five hundred.

I would be most grateful if people who are being

discriminated against by insurance companies would write to me at the address below.

Robert Moxon
195 Seamer Road
Scarborough
North Yorks YO12 4HQ

Community dental care

As a community dentist who provides a full range of dental care for people with special needs, I was interested to read a letter about dental treatment in your March issue. Your reader was very fortunate to receive treatment in a dental hospital; however many people do not have access to them.

It is sad that many general dental practitioners are unable to treat people with special needs, either because their surgeries are inaccessible or they feel unable to cope with some patients needs. I would like to point out that the Community Dental Service offers care for people who are unable to obtain treatment elsewhere.

In Camberwell, where I work, there is a team of dentists, therapists, hygienists and dental health educators who provide a comprehensive service for people with special needs, whatever their age or requirements. This includes making home visits, a mobile dental unit for school children, special dental clinics in health centres and hospitals.

We also provide a preventive service with health education for people of all ages and backgrounds and their carers. We aim to prevent dental handicap!

Most Community Dental Services in England, Wales and Scotland provide similar services.

Tamsin Hearle BDS MSc
Lister Health Centre
London SE15 3LW

DN looked at dental health care and the work of a community dentist in June '87 – Editor.

Architects in wheelchairs

I refer to the letter "Architects in Wheelchairs" by Keith Armstrong (DN June).

The point is that disability takes many forms, and the handicapping effects of ill-considered, thoughtlessly designed buildings take even more forms.

Mr Armstrong looks to a greater number of disabled architects as a solution; this might help, but it is not a solution. As an architect with a physical disability, I am frequently dismayed by my own lack of understanding of other people's difficulties.

There is one certain way of ensuring that architects respond effectively to the needs of disabled people, and that is for disabled people to pay the architects' fees.

Only when people with a disability can substantially influence the interpretation of their needs by professionals, in other words, direct their own affairs, will any real impact be made.

David Bonnett RIBA
Post Graduate Research School
Department of Architecture
Oxford Polytechnic

In praise of Newton

May I trespass on your space to praise a subsidiary of The Spastics Society – Newton Products, Meadow Works, Birmingham? I do so both as Chairman of the Royal Association for Disability and Rehabilitation (RADAR) and as someone with 18 years dependence upon wheelchairs.

Not only is Newton doing splendid humanitarian work in employing over 80 disabled

people, but it produces the best wheelchairs in the world – both electric and self-propelled.

The electric models won outstanding victories at the Seoul Olympics last year and I can personally vouch for the prototype of the latest model self-propelled chair. This is better than the previous model R, which experience taught me was the best chair available and carried me everywhere, including The Great Wall of China.

The Duke of Buccleuch KT
Kettering

Inside the Outsiders Club

Since joining the Outsiders Club life has taken on a whole new perspective. I have met many new friends, and have always been treated with kindness and respect.

I have enjoyed relationships with several men within the club and these too have been satisfying and fulfilling.

Members of the club come from all walks of life, all shades of opinion and all types of experience. Within that group it is inevitable that there will be people with whom I do not get on, but that is no more the case within the Outsiders than within society as a whole – and the members of Outsiders do have the saving grace that they acknowledge my disability without allowing it to overshadow all other aspects of my being.

The club has done more for me than any other group to which I have ever belonged.

Lesley Child
c/o The Outsiders Club
London W1A 4ZB

This is one of 16 comments on "What the Outsiders Club means to me", collected at a recent meeting of the club.

JOIN US FOR

naidex'89

A MAJOR EXHIBITION OF EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR NURSING HOMES, REST HOMES, THE DISABLED AND THE ELDERLY

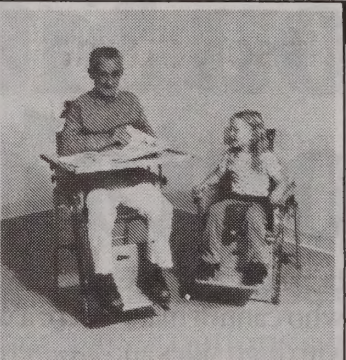
ALEXANDRA PALACE LONDON 11-13 OCTOBER

Largest ever • Professionals day • Easy access from all over the UK • Prestigious venue especially chosen for its ease of access for the disabled and elderly • FREE entry • FREE catalogue • FREE car parking – and special arrangements for disabled drivers/passengers.

Equipment and services covered will include: Bathroom/toilet furnishings • Body supports • Chairs • Childrens furniture • Communications • Handicrafts • Kitchen Equipment • Leisure • Mobility aids • Nursing and rest home equipment • Physiotherapy/exercise aids • Publications • Rehabilitation equipment • Stair lifts and hoists • Toys • Vehicles and adaptations • Wheelchairs

Helping towards Independence.

FURTHER DETAILS NOW AVAILABLE FROM: NAIDEX CONVENTIONS LTD
90 CALVERLEY ROAD, TUNBRIDGE WELLS, KENT TN11 2UN, ENGLAND
TELEPHONE: 0892 44027. TELEX: 95604 MEPNCL G. FAX: 0892 41023



sic

Don't break the bank

Perhaps it's the housing price recession . . . but the Norwich and Peterborough Building Society's area manager, Andrew Bates, was recently shown handing over a £50 cheque to the local John Grooms centre as a contribution to their £200,000 building appeal. "If all the larger firms in the city were to follow our example and each donate £50, the money would soon be raised," said accountant Mr Bates. The Norwich and Peterborough, with 70 offices countrywide, would have to be followed by 4,000 other such firms to reach the target. Still, it's the publicity... oops!... thought that counts.

Glasgow grand prix

An elderly woman concerned about how she would get her wheelchair-user friend from Glasgow Royal Infirmary's casualty department to her parked car solved the problem by driving her Mini through the hospital's automatic doors and into casualty. When porters had persuaded the woman to reverse out, they helped carry her friend to the car.

The ME generation: *fact or fantasy?*

Psychiatrist Anthony Pelosi and ME Action Campaign President Clare Francis debate the issue

There has been much controversy lately about myalgic encephalomyelitis (ME), the name given to a poorly-defined illness characterised by prolonged fatigue following acute infection.

Profound fatigue or exertion is the core feature. Other symptoms can include mood disturbance, concentration and memory difficulties, muscle pains and weakness, bowel upset, and recurrent minor infections.

A similar clinical picture can be found in hormonal diseases, and in depressive thyroid disease, in various muscle diseases, and in depressive illness and severe anxiety states. These should be considered as alternative explanations whenever ME is diagnosed.

After improvement from the most serious phases of the illness it is often difficult for sufferers to return to their previous level of functioning. This may partly be due to an extreme lack of physical fitness and even muscle wasting after prolonged inactivity.

However, the majority recover (although this may follow several years of illness).

Why, then, has there been so much angry dispute about ME? This has not simply involved scientific debate: there have been questions in the House of Commons, insistence that the Government should officially recognise ME as an illness, foolish and even insulting articles

in the press about people with ME, and bitter attacks on the medical profession by some members of patient support groups.

One reason is uncertainty about the cause of ME. The diagnosis is likely to cover several separate conditions, so abnormal findings are rarely repeated because of differences in the patients studied by other scientists.

A more important source of controversy is the frequent occurrence of emotional symptoms in ME. This has led many doctors to argue that most people with this diagnosis have a form of depressive illness.

Other doctors believe that psychological and social stressors, either before the onset of fatigue or following physical



Anthony J Pelosi

"The way forward with ME involves a change in approach which is relevant to all illnesses"

disability, are important factors in slowing recovery from an infective illness.

Others argue that psychological and psychiatric features of ME are a direct result of infection or inflammation in the brain's mood centres.

The greatest challenge now facing researchers is to unravel the relative importance of each of these overlapping possibilities within each patient as well as in groups of ME sufferers.

Unfortunately, many people with ME have the impression that when doctors consider the role of psychological and social factors in an illness they are implying that the problems are "all in the mind" and are not genuine. This misconception is obvious in the ill-informed arguments on whether ME is a purely physical illness and therefore "real", or whether it is psychological and therefore there is "nothing wrong".

It should be a source of shame to the medical profession that many doctors also separate illnesses in this way.

In my view, the way forward with ME involves a change in approach which is relevant to *all* illnesses. This would emphasise the effects of a physical illness on a person's psychological and social wellbeing. And, just as importantly the psychological and social influences on physical health.

This approach is hardly new



Clare Francis

"The key to progress in ME lies in collaboration"

major organic abnormalities in ME sufferers, effectively discrediting the "hysterical" label affixed to them in the mid-fifties. This has not stopped the psychiatrists trying to "keep" the disease in their territory by labelling it a depressive illness.

Depression is certainly a common symptom of the illness, but it is by no means a universal symptom, and the striking feature of many cases (especially among children) is their previously excellent physical and mental health.

The inability to function on either a physical or mental level brings about traumatic changes in people's lifestyles – job-losses and financial crises are but precursors to severe emotional stress, as relationships crack

under the strain of this debilitating illness.

Until the formation of the ME Action Campaign many of the estimated 100,000 sufferers in the UK were left totally isolated.

The Campaign not only sends out information (25,000 fact sheets in 18 months), but seeks publicity for the plight of sufferers, and thus recognition for the disease.

Our efforts have produced a huge response and our activities have been expanded to include help groups, detailed self-help information and fundraising for research into therapies (both conventional and alternative).

The Campaign has recently become a membership organisation (subscription £8.50) for which members get three copies of the Campaign's 90-page journal per year. Members are encouraged to join their local Action Group and to take an active part in the democratic procedures of the organisation.

Our organisation reflects the growing trend towards "patient power" and we hope to work with the growing band of doctors who agree that the key to progress with ME – like so many diseases – lies in collaboration between sufferers, scientists and practitioners.

ME Action Campaign, PO Box 1126, London W3 0RY.

and it is taught to all medical students early in their clinical training.

Unfortunately it is often forgotten in practice partly due to increasing medical specialisation and excessive reliance on technological advances.

If both patients and doctors

paid more attention to this "biopsychosocial" approach then the debate over ME may have a beneficial side-effect – not just for ME patients but for those with other disabling conditions.

Dr. Pelosi is a lecturer at the Institute of Psychiatry in London.

ARE YOU...



- ... Registered Disabled?
(or is a member of your family)
- ... A G/v Driver?
- ... A War Pensioner?
- ... A Mobility Recipient?

If so you may be eligible for a

BRAND NEW MICRA



Did you know for just **£33** insurance contribution you could drive-away a brand new Nissan Micra 1.0LS.
(Mobility Recipients Only)

RING MIKE FRANKS NOW!
ON OUR MOBILITY INFORMATION LINE

AFC NISSAN
MOBILITY

OLD KENT RD

777 OLD KENT ROAD, LONDON SE15 1NZ. TEL: 01-639 8981

London College of Furniture Summer Show

Merle Davies and David Nicholson look at the innovations from the class of 89

Five new pieces of equipment for disabled people were highlighted at the London College of Furniture's summer show this year: a take-apart doll, a computer mouse system, a double buggy, an inflatable bath support and a foot-operated vice-grip.

They were the work of students on a post-graduate diploma course, Design for Disability, which takes around 12 entrants a year.

Course tutor Brian Boothby said: "We have been going since 1981, as part of the Council for National Academic Awards. Speech and physio-therapists, interior designers and many other graduates come on the course. Next year we even

have a GP."

Susan Randle designed her doll for people with "a poor sense of body image". This means mentally handicapped people, or others who can be confused about their bodies. Each part of the doll (ears, nose, hands, legs etc) comes off, and can be re-fastened with velcro.

"There's nothing like it on the market at the moment," said Susan Randle. "I've taken it to several schools and the response from teachers has been extremely good."

Richard Houghton's adapted McLaren major buggy, for a disabled child and a baby, has taken a year to design in the College's workshops. He sees it as useful

for parents of disabled children or teenagers who also have a baby. "At present there is only a side-by-side buggy, which is impossible to get through standard doors."

Ann Talbot, mother of a disabled child and two younger



Susan Randle's rip-off doll

able-bodied children, said: "It's just the sort of thing that would be very useful if you had an older disabled child and a baby. There were times when my children were small that I couldn't get out on my own."



Merle Davies tries her hand at the mouse machine

Oliver Paisch has developed a set of levers which connect a computer mouse - used to draw lines on a screen - to a "dampening" system, which over-rides uncontrolled hand movements.

Merle Davies tried drawing with the system and found it made a definite difference. "This is the one design we have most hopes for," said Brian Boothby. "It should almost certainly attract investors and be produced commercially for people with Parkinson's disease, for example."

So far none of this year's designs have been taken up by manufacturers, although previous years have yielded some successes, such as the prone sup-

port, manufactured by Nottingham Rehab, which has found over 1000 customers.

Students on the course have had additional funding from the charity DEMAND (Design and Manufacture for Disability), which has helped, for example, to develop a camera-holder to fix onto a wheelchair, with the viewfinder replaced by a mini television.

Design Research for Disability, London College of Furniture, 41-71 Commercial Road, London E1 1LA, tel: 01-247 1953. DEMAND, Napsbury Hospital, London Colney, St Albans, tel: (0727) 23333.



Richard Houghton's adapted major buggy for two

WHEN IT COMES TO THE CRUNCH!!



*You need
to
Keep Mobile*

'Keep Mobile'
Car Insurance for Disabled Drivers



GUARANTEED TO COST 10% LESS THAN YOUR PRESENT COMPREHENSIVE POLICY WHEN IT FALLS DUE FOR ITS ANNUAL RENEWAL.

If you satisfy our generous eligibility requirements, we offer you:

- Fast repairs in the garage of your choice
- Mobility allowance (up to £30 per day - limit £500)
- New-for-Old cover on driving adaptations
- Wheelchairs in or on the car covered
- Comprehensive cover without excess
- Injury cover (up to £5000)
- New car replacement benefit
- Disability is not a rating factor
- Any driver over the age 21 years (per eligibility requirements)



M J Fish & Co
NATIONAL SCHEME UNDERWRITING DIVISION

3 Riversway Business Village, Navigation Way, PRESTON PR2 2YP Tel: (0772) 724442

Please send me more information on your 'Keep Mobile' policy. DNB

Name

Address

Tel No.

NORTH
naidex'89

Visualising the future

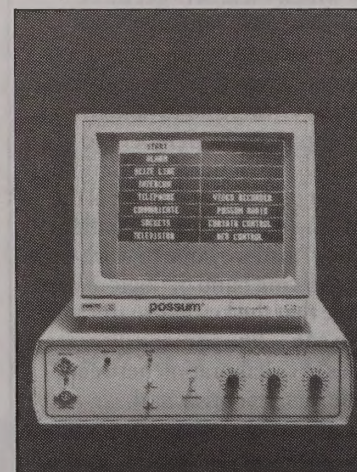
Peter Watts reports*

This year Northern Naidex did not have many new microtech products on show except in the section for people with visual impairment.

Two new items from Alphavision, tel: (0494) 30555, were particularly interesting, although in common with so much of this type of equipment, they are imported and expensive.

The Visulex LPD is a circuit card and controls that will plug in to an IBM PC microcomputer (or compatible) to provide an enlarged display for users with partial sight.

The PC's display now acts like



The Possum 2000 system

an electronic magnifying glass that can be moved around the conventional display to enlarge particular areas as required.

Unlike some other systems this one claims to be fully compatible with all PC software because of the technique used to grab the computer's visual output.

Although only text was being demonstrated on this prototype, graphics should be possible on the final product.

A wide range of magnification is available and it is also possible to change the displayed colours to suit individual needs and preferences. Available in a few months, Alphavision anticipate it will cost approximately £3,500.

The company's other product, Notex, is a self-contained, Braille "note-book".

With a large memory, an 8-dot keyboard plus function keys, and a 24 character Braille tactile display, the Notex makes a very portable note taker with built-in wordprocessing facilities.

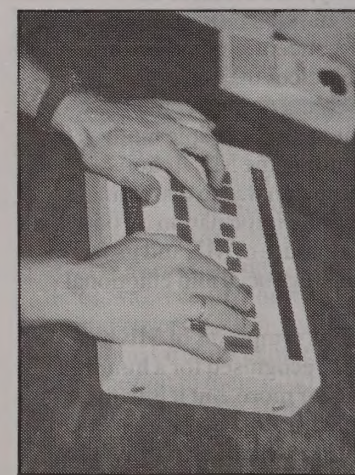
It can connect to many other devices either for output to printer or embosser, or receive information from another source. At £4,295 an expensive box, considering it is the size of a thick A4 pad of paper!

Apparently much of the cost is due to the patented tactile display.

Hopefully, when this expires soon, the price will drop. (In June 1988 *DN* reported on a similar device, the Eureka A4 from Techno-Vision Systems, tel: (0604) 239363, that had far more built-in facilities and was

only a third of the price, but did use synthesised speech for output to the user.)

Possum Controls, tel: (0753) 79234, were proudly demonstrating the Possum 2000/PSU6 environmental control



The Notex Braille notebook: cute but costly

system that *DN* first reported in September 1987 when it was still unnamed!

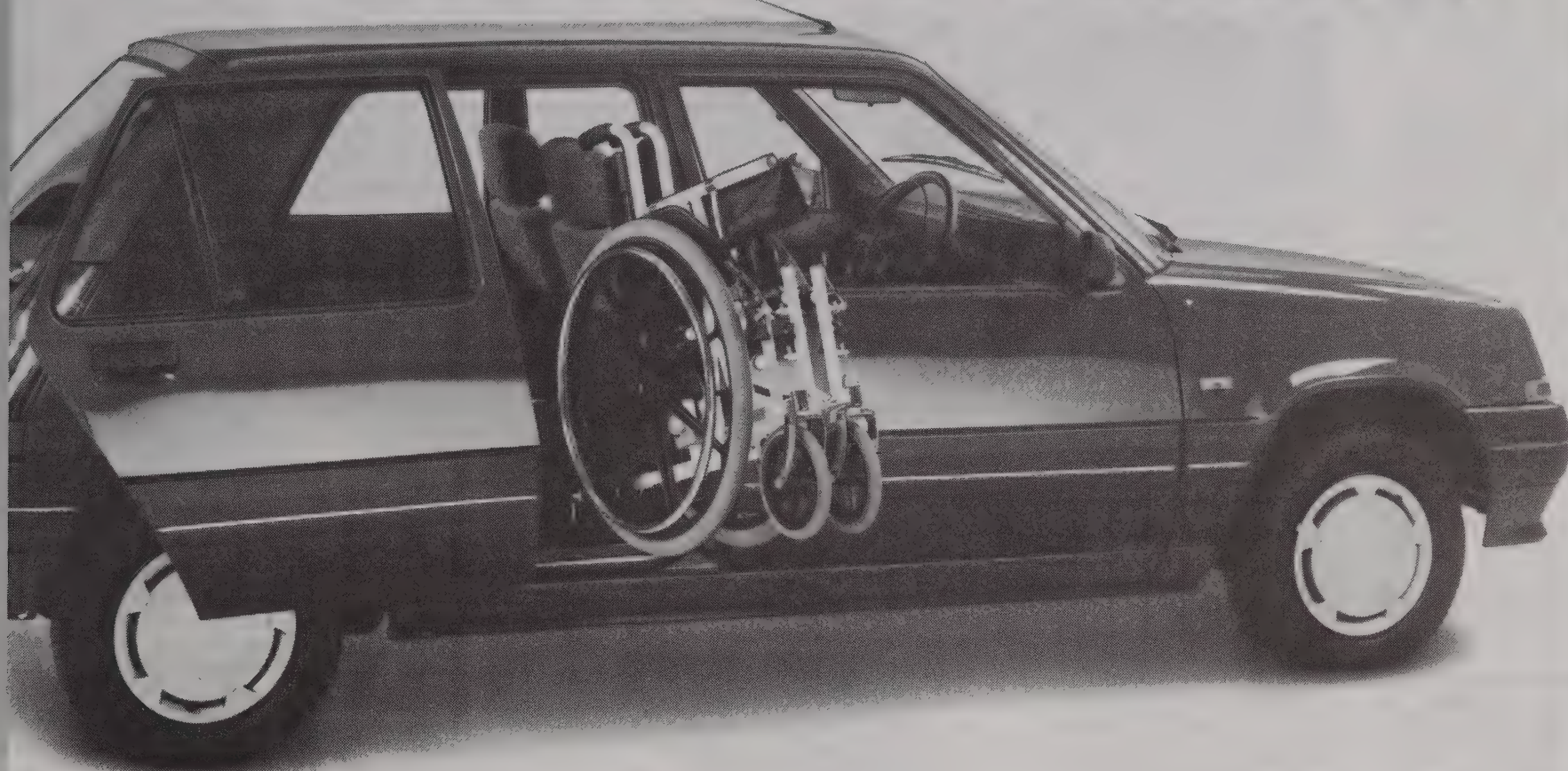
Since then the system has gained both DHSS approval and a keyboard emulator for the ubiquitous IBM PC microcomputer.

It was interesting to hear that besides installing this system for "first-time" users, the DHSS has been replacing older equipment with this more modern and flexible system where the upgrade could be justified.

Peter Watts is senior experimental officer at UNIST's Medical Engineering Unit.

*Carried over from last month

WIDER OPTIONS FOR THE DISABLED



At Renault we believe that when choosing a car for disabled motoring your options should be as wide open as those of any other driver on the road. And that's what the Renault Disabled Motorist Programme is all about.

Open to any registered disabled person, or those with mobility allowance, the Programme offers you all the comfort, space and style of most models in the Renault 5, 19, 21 ranges and 25 range up to the TX model, at really competitive rates.

The Kemp rear-sliding door illustrated, is just one of the many conversions available that we'd be more than happy to talk to you about.

We can also advise you on the best way to stretch your budget, with our own Renault loan low interest rate Hire Purchase, Motability financed Hire Purchase, or lease, and the special 16% discount* offered on all cars eligible for the Programme.

Please send me full details of the Renault Disabled Motorists' Programme

Name: _____

Address: _____



Post to: Special Sales, Renault UK Ltd, Western Avenue, Acton, London W3 0RZ. (Credit Broker).

*This offer applies to basic list price and is in substitution for, and not in addition to, any other discounts, finance offers, special editions, made by, or on behalf of Renault UK Ltd.



THERE'S MORE
TO LIFE WITH
RENAULT

Zoom in on a new hobby!

Ian Younger offers advice and helps you choose equipment

There can be no one, able bodied or disabled, who at some time or another has not said to themselves, "if only I could capture this moment forever".

Stone age man certainly did. He used the juice of berries to paint images of animals he hunted on the walls of his caves – as we today hang photographs of scenes, people or objects we wish to remember on our walls.

An ingenious descendant of that first cave artist, namely Leonardo da Vinci, found that if he constructed a large dark room and made a very small pin hole in one wall, an inverted image of the scene outside the room would be projected on to the wall opposite, enabling him to trace the image onto paper. The room was called a Camera Obscura.

Many years later a light sensitive paper was invented on which a permanent sepia image could be formed. From this came roll film and the first box camera suitable for use by everyone.

The modern camera

The camera has come a long way from its humble box camera beginnings. Along the way, many different formats have come and gone.

The most popular size with enthusiastic photographers, amateur and professional alike, remains the 35mm cassette, though non-enthusiasts tend to buy one of the cheaper 110 format, no frills cameras for their holiday snapshots.

The essential requirements remain, however, basically the

same: a light, tight box in which film can pass in front of an aperture to be exposed to light.

The simple hole has given way to a lens to focus the image onto the film and a shutter to time the exposure accurately to fractions of a second. A system of spools allow the film to be wound past the lens once exposure has taken

the film into position ready to take the first picture, once the cassette has been put in place. They automatically set the correct film speed in the cameras' exposure meter memory, allowing the metering system to set the correct exposure for each picture.

Another bug bear, for able-



Helpful camera support and equipment from Mobilia.

place and re-wound into a cassette (in the case of 35mm format). It can then be safely removed from the camera and developed and printed.

Common problems

The advance of technology means that there are now a wide range of cameras which will wind

bodied photographers too, is focusing. This has been taken care of with auto-focus systems, leaving you with only the problem of composing the picture. But remember, the human eye can be very selective. The camera lens is not, and will faithfully reproduce the telegraph pole or drain pipe growing out of grandad's head!

Choosing a camera

Single lens reflex cameras allow you to see more precisely what it is that you are about to photograph; some also have interchangeable lens systems to allow you to bring distant images closer or, more precisely, to enlarge distant objects so they appear closer.

Even cameras with fixed lenses are being produced with zoom lenses which enable you to choose between a wide angle shot of the whole family or a telephoto picture of a distant church spire.

Motor drives have been used by photo journalists for many years, enabling them to take a series of pictures in a fraction of a second. They can be a little wasteful of film if you keep pressure on the shutter release for too long, but they are ideal if hand movements are difficult.

Many cameras are now to be found with motor drives fitted as standard, with single shot or continuous settings to enable you to conserve film.

To take the best photographs

The Disabled Photographers Society can help you with camera modifications. Special shutter release devices are also available, varying according to the needs of the individual. The Society's annual photography exhibition is on from 19-26 August at the Old Town Hall, Richmond, Surrey. For details tel: 01-547 1566.

you do not necessarily need to buy the most expensive equipment, although it certainly helps if you can afford the best lenses.

What you should attempt is to make conditions as perfect as possible within the limitations of the camera and film.

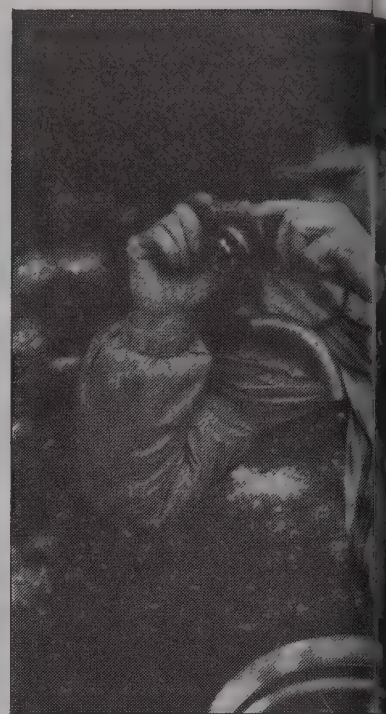
With that aim in mind, if you are likely to be unable to hold a camera steady during the period of exposure, then purchase a good, sturdy tripod or support – preferably one with square sectioned legs, not some lightweight round-tubed device.

Prices normally reflect the number of features and the quality of the camera. In other words you get what you pay for.

But prices do also vary according to the type of camera shop you go to. You may pay more in a well-established shop which specialises only in cameras, but then the staff are more likely to spend time explaining the pros and cons of each camera, and this is preferable to some of the cut price supermarket-style shops where staff are not necessarily well versed in technicalities and may not have the time or inclination to explain.

Also, a specialist shop often has good second-hand cameras that have been traded in, and you could get a bargain. In 36 years of photography, I have only bought a new camera once!

One company which



Taking photos on an Alternative

specialises in equipment for disabled people by mail order is Mobilia, Unit B32, Barwell Business Park, Leatherhead Road, Chessington, Surrey KT9 2NY, tel: 01-974 1430. It has a wide range of devices including a specially designed camera support (£25.30) suitable for use on a wheelchair.

In the survey I have tried to include all the current models, but it is not a definitive list of cameras suitable for people with disabilities. Rather it is a starting point for you to go and find a camera which suits your particular requirements.

Who knows, the next David Bailey may be about to go looking for his first camera.

Ian Younger worked in the photographic industry for 12 years and had photos and articles published both here and in the USA. Six years ago he became disabled as a result of complications following a brain tumour.

THE NATURAL ANSWER

For total COMFORT our "UNIQUE" Pressure Relief Underblanket will CUSHION and SUPPORT your "Entire" body as if "FLOATING" ON AIR.

BENEFICIAL TO:

★ SUFFERERS OF, "RHEUMATISM" "ARTHRITIS" "CIRCULATION PROBLEMS" ★



"SUPPORT PILLOWS"

With "Pure Fleece's" ability to reduce DUST & BACTERIA, these pillows can benefit Asthma and allergy sufferers. Our "Euro" Pillow (30" x 30") supports your "Head/Neck and Small of the Back" useful as support whether relaxing in "Bed" or in your favourite "Chair".

"PRESSURE RELIEF DUVET"

Filled with the same "Unique" "Wool fibre Filling" as our Pillows, these "Ultra Light" Duvets will keep you "Cool" in High Summer yet comfortably warm during the "Winter months".



"WHEEL CHAIR COMFY BLANKET"

Made from 100% SUPER WASH WOOL your blanket will CUSHION AND SUPPORT pressure points giving YOU far more deserved comfort in your Wheel Chair both at work and at home.

100% "Pure Wool" – NATURALLY "FIRE RETARDENT!" with the ability to absorb moisture from Perspiration yet release it "Hygenically" helps make all our products suitable

★ 365 DAYS OF THE YEAR! ★

TO PLACE YOUR ORDER

PLEASE TELEPHONE "EURODESIGN (WOOL) LIMITED" 0803 299922 OR COMPLETE THE ORDER COUPON BELOW AND RETURN "FREEPOST" WITH YOUR NAME/ADDRESS DETAILS TO:

"Euro Design (Wool) Ltd" FREEPOST Suite 89/91 Castle Circus House, Union Street, Torquay, South Devon TQ1 3BR

WHEELCHAIR BLANKET: £29.95.....	
UNDERBLANKET: Single £58.95.....	Double: £66.95.....
RELIEF DUVETS: Single: £39.99.....	Double: £49.99.....
PILLOWS: 18" x 30" £19.99.....	30" x 30" £24.75.....
TOTAL: Plus £2.00 P/P £	
I wish to pay by ACCESS/VISA NO:	

(Expiry Date)



PURE NEW WOOL

DNB

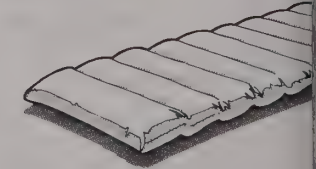
PLEASE ALLOW 28 DAYS FOR DELIVERY

Tendercare

The leader in

We offer you a support specifically designed to help with beds and all types of pressure problems.

Electrically powered bed raiser (fits all beds – even your own divan). Precise positioning height of bed to ease transfer in or out.



Unique gel cushions for sitting comfort. Now available in different sizes including one for bed use.

Send now for your Tendercare information

Mr/Mrs/Ms

Address

Phone no

Tendercare, 62 Boston Road, Be

Leicester LE4 1AZ. Telephone: (

Tendercare, 5 Loaning Road, Ec

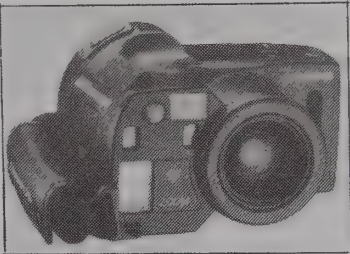
Telephone: 031 652 1603.

Tendercare forms part of The Healthcare Divi

DN's survey of 35mm cameras, tripods and supports

OLYMPUS

AZ Superzoom SLR, AW, AF, IF, AC, AE, zoom lens ****
AF Twin AF, IF, AW, AE, AC. Twin lenses wide angle and telephoto; weatherproof (ie splash resistant) ****
AF10 AE, IF, AF, AC, AW. Lightweight compact camera, light shutter release *****
AF1 IF, AF, AE, AC, AW. Compact camera, light shutter release, weatherproof (ie splash resistant) *****



Olympus AF Zoom

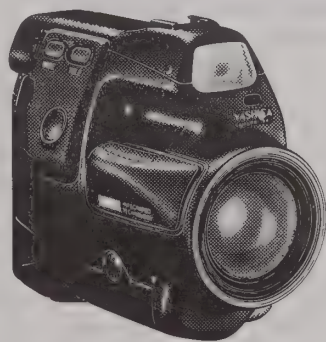
PRAKTICA

SPORT AFX AF, AC, AW, AE, IF, compact camera ***
BCA20 AF, AE, SLR, IL, 55mm-200mm zoom lens *

HANIMEX

35HS Fixed focus compact camera ***
35HL Fixed focus, IF, compact camera ***
35ESM AW, IF, AE, compact camera ***
35KF AC, AE, AW, IF, AF, compact camera ***
35KAS IF, AW, AE, AF, AC, compact camera ***

YASHICA

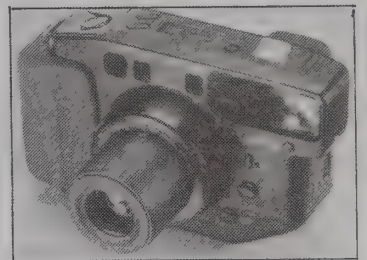


Samurai X4.0

SAMURI 3.0 SLR, AE, AF, IF, AC, AW, zoom lens, half frame 35mm format, double number of pictures per roll. If hand held the buttons fall neatly to hand ****
SAMURI X4.0 SLR, AE, AF, IF, AW, AC, zoom lens half frame 35mm format, double number of pictures per roll. If hand held the buttons fall neatly to hand ****
A model for left-handed use will be available early next year.

CANON

EOS 750 SLR, AE, AF, IL, IF ***
EOS 850 SLR, AE, AF, IL ***
EOS 600 SLR, AW, AE, AF, IL, SAC ***
EOS 620 SLR, AF, IL, AW ***
EOS 650 SLR, AF, IL, AW ***
PRIMA/SNAPPY EZ SAC, AW, IF. Back cover release small and difficult ****
SURE SHOT ACE AC, AF, AE, IF, AW, remote control. Back cover release small and difficult ****
SURE SHOT SUPREME AC, AE, AF, IF, AW. Back cover release small and difficult ****
T90 AW, IL, SLR, AF, AE, IL, AC, remote control available.



Canon Sureshot Zoom XL

Back cover release small and difficult ****
SURESHOT ZOOM XL IF, AF, AE, AW, wide angle to telephoto lens, remote control. Optional hand grip with strap available and shutter release placed under right thumb. Back cover release small and difficult ****

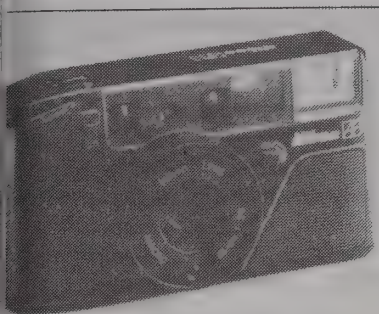
TRIPODS AND SUPPORTS

These should all be available through specialist camera shops, where there should be choice.
AICO SLIK EASI-GLIDE with dolly. Solidly built tripod on wheels, originally intended for use with a video camera. Also available without wheels.
FRESHOLD SUPPORT, well designed chest support suitable for cameras or binoculars, but even allowing for a disabled person's discount rather more expensive than the norm.
CAR CAMERA SUPPORT "UNIVERSAL" by HAMA, with suction pad for fixing to side or rear window, takes weight up to 1.7 kg.
6071 EASI-HOLD CHEST SUPPORT by HAMA, takes weight of camera on chest via neck strap.
CLAMP AND TABLE TRIPOD by HAMA, ideal for

use on wheelchair or fixed to a fence or other support.
KAISER 6005 SHOULDER POD with cable release and trigger. Non-slip strap loops over shoulder. Camera is mounted on rod with adjustable end plate.
KAISER 5044 MOUNTING CLAMP, ideal for use on wheelchairs. Upper end swivels to allow adjustment of camera angle.
KAISER 1112 PROFESSIONALS' ANGLE BRACKET with cable release adaptable for left or right hand use.
CULLMAN CLAMP MAGIC 2703, suitable for clamping on tubing wheelchair. Variable height arm 30-45 cm.
CULLMAN CHESTPOD MAGIC 2702 leaves hands free between shots. Weight taken by neck strap.



irse, see page 4.



A53

CODE FOR BOXES

Auto Cassette load
Semi Auto Cassette load
Auto Wind
Auto focus
Auto Exposure
Single Lens Reflex
Integral Flash Unit
Interchangeable Lenses
= 1 (low) to 5 (high) rating denotes use for those with difficult hand movements (not camera quality).

care

ort and relief
ial range of products
ome discomfort associated

Electrically adjustable contour beds to meet every need, giving relief through the night.



Fibre filled comfort padding (now available in new colours). The ultimate choice in pressure relief.

Waterproof covers for the bed made of air permeable film for super comfort.

I am particularly interested in: DN8

☐ Contour beds

☐ Bed raiser

☐ Comfort padding

☐ Waterproof covers

☐ Gel cushions



International exhibition with congresses and sport centre

Düsseldorf

Messe Düsseldorf

For five days in Düsseldorf there will be opportunities to meet people and exchange information...

...at REHA 89, the leading international exhibition of equipment for the disabled.

Make sure you obtain details about this unique event.

REHA 89 Reply Coupon

I am interested in REHA 89. Please send me:

_____ copies of the Congress Programme

_____ copies of the REHA 89 information leaflet

Name: _____

Address: _____

Town: _____ Post Code: _____

Country: _____

Messe Düsseldorf

Düsseldorf Trade fair Agency Ltd.
108/110 Finchley Road London NW3 5JJ
Phone (01) 794 01 66 Fax (01) 4 35 99 67 Telex 21 905



Bicycles by Tansek Suzana of Yugoslavia – an exhibit in the 26th International Exhibition of Art by People with a Mental Handicap, held at the Cottons Centre, London SE1, 20–25 June.

ART

Royal Academy Summer Exhibition

In this year's Summer Exhibition at the Royal Academy there are 70 pieces of sculpture that can be touched by the visually impaired and disabled person.

This is a splendid breakthrough and a real innovation – long overdue! There will be the usual special day (31 July, *details below*) providing a "viewing" for disabled people and mothers with young children, thus avoiding the pressures of the large crowds that attend most days.

The actual touching is not restricted to this day alone, but it is advisable to phone and inform the education department of visits on other days. A large print list is available, plus a map of the various galleries in which the sculptures can be found.

One can go right up near and even around some pieces – putting one's hand into the hand of the lovely girl in the hammock ("Jeux de Vagues" no. 1101) and feel the flower she is holding. Or run both hands lightly over the alabaster head called "Letting Go" (no. 1170).



John Bundock, a professional photographer with cp, has kindly donated some of his pictures to DN. Properly mounted and on display in The Spastics Society's foyer, 12 Park Crescent, London W1, colour prints cost £25 and black and white £15.

The actual feel of the beautiful medium used will relax any tension. The only problem is choosing just how many of the many pieces to get around to.

The sculptures range from maquettes to full size figures. Many materials have been used, so there are many textures to experience, and a wide range of styles.

Don't miss the lazy "Resting Sow" (no. 552) or the "Long

Awaited Treasure" (no. 1061) and touch at least one of the many pieces by the late David McFall.

As for the pictures? That's for another day. I found the touching of so many sculptures an exhibition treat in itself.

Gioya Steinke

The Royal Academy of Art, Burlington House, Piccadilly, London W1, tel: 01-439 7438

BOOKS

Sixteen – And Then What?

by Andrina E McCormack
(Hodder and Stoughton £4.95)
Be your own revolutionary for

only £4.95!

This excellent handbook gives clear, precise information on action necessary to improve services. Effective use of communication skills (even body language) is detailed. Sources of advice and an action plan for this "16+ crusade" are provided.

The author has a progressive attitude towards learning

difficulties (mental handicap). The individual with special needs is portrayed as an equal person with equal rights. Integration is endorsed, backed by awareness, education and sufficient material resources.

For me, the book only falls down on the statement that "for many severely handicapped people . . . care offered by long

term hospitals is not only adequate but the most appropriate form of lifestyle."

Despite protestations to the contrary she has, alas, fallen into the "illness trap" she herself defines and deplores as dehumanising people who have greater needs and are not easily understood. In the area of severe disability there is still ignorance

and a dearth of high quality integrated provision.

For the parent whose child is more severely disabled, the fight is even harder and winning essential.

For *all* parents the message is . . . be persistent, be positive, be effective in pursuing better services. No one is going to do it for you or for your child when you are no longer there to be the advocate.

A unique and stimulating book which has the potential to raise standards of services everywhere by the effective mobilisation of parents to grass roots action.

Parents and Mentally Handicapped Children

by Charles Hannam
(Bristol Classical Press £5.95 paperback)

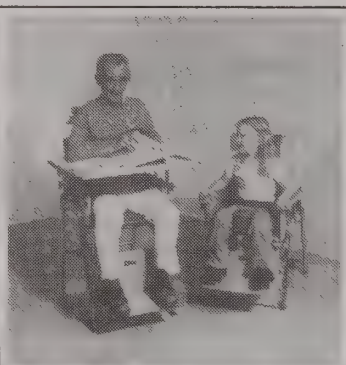
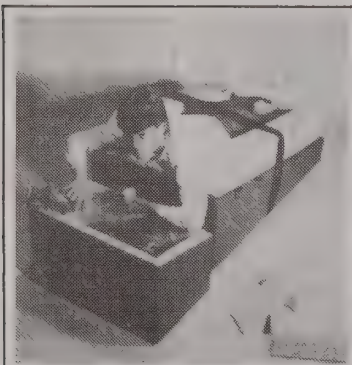
This devastatingly depressing book would not have helped me as a parent at any time during my daughter's 17 years. It is an amalgam of emotions, recommendations, contacts and reading lists.

I value books with positive and clear aims, not charged with deeply emotive statements. Such dangerous emotions need to be explored individually with expert counselling.

The book says nothing new. It reinforces my own belief in the need to establish in every borough family support units (on the Barnardo's model) and training/education (to Beech Tree standards). This book will not significantly advance these desirable aims.

The methods outlined by Ms McCormack will.

Janet Boddington



JOIN US FOR

naidex'89

A MAJOR EXHIBITION OF EQUIPMENT AND SERVICES FOR NURSING HOMES, REST HOMES, THE DISABLED AND THE ELDERLY

ALEXANDRA PALACE LONDON 11-13 OCTOBER

Largest ever • Professionals day • Easy access from all over the UK • Prestigious venue especially chosen for its ease of access for the disabled and elderly • FREE entry • FREE catalogue • FREE car parking – and special arrangements for disabled drivers/passengers.

Equipment and services covered will include: Bathroom/toilet furnishings • Body supports • Chairs • Childrens furniture • Communications • Handicrafts • Kitchen Equipment • Leisure • Mobility aids • Nursing and rest home equipment • Physiotherapy/exercise aids • Publications • Rehabilitation equipment • Stair lifts and hoists • Toys • Vehicles and adaptations • Wheelchairs

Helping towards Independence.

FURTHER DETAILS NOW AVAILABLE FROM NAIDEX CONVENTIONS LTD
90 CALVERLEY ROAD TUNBRIDGE WELLS KENT TN11 2UN ENGLAND
TELEPHONE 0892 44027, TELEX: 95604 MEPNCL G, FAX: 0892 41023

THEATRE

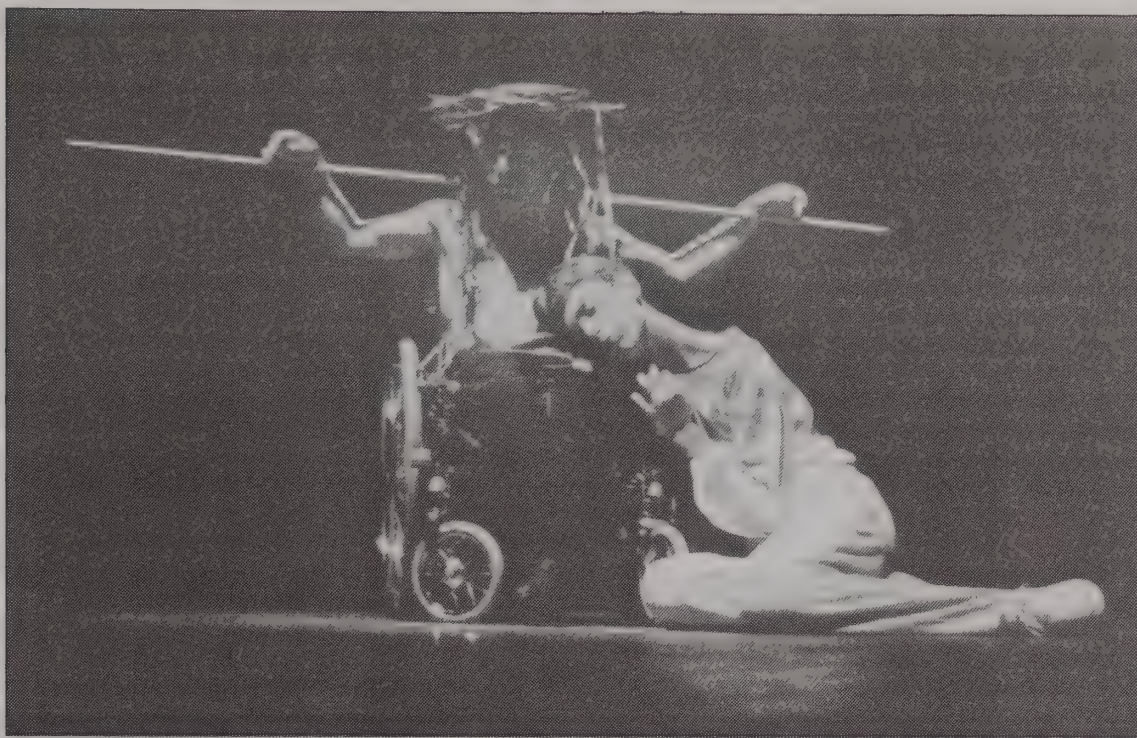
The Mind's Eye

Performers from Beaumont College in Lancaster were on the Laurence Olivier stage at the National Theatre last month on the day of Lord Olivier's death.

They were appearing in *The Mind's Eye*, which they had written themselves. It formed one part of the Lloyd's Bank Young Theatre Challenge, together with 12 other groups from around the country.

"The play is a personal reaction to Christy Nolan's *Under the Eye of the Clock*," said College principal David Gilbert. "It says a lot about themselves. It raises the issues of abortion and birth. It's a very honest expression."

Steven Downward, one of the cast, said "We've been working on the play since September, and then rehearsing it properly in the past few months. I'm very nervous of going on stage. I was nervous when the theatre was empty, so I can't think what it will be like in front of 1,160-strong audience."



Tim Ellwood (seated) and Steven Downward in the public eye at the National Theatre

The show was sold out for the three nights of performances, which represent the prizes for each drama group. Three hundred and eighty groups entered, and Beaumont made it through to the final 200 without the organisers knowing that the performers have cp.

Debbie Bramhall plays a woman who wants to have an abortion when she discovers the

child she is carrying will be disabled. "I'm almost totally against abortion," she said, "so it's very difficult for me to say things I don't agree with."

David Gilbert emphasised how important drama is to the life of Beaumont College. "It plays an integral part in the personal and social development of our students," he said. Beaumont is run by The Spastics Society.

The Mind's Eye has generated a huge amount of media interest, with articles appearing in *The Sunday Times*, and journalists from *Link*, Granada TV, and *Woman's Hour* coming to interview the performers. They were also selected to be presented to Dame Judi Dench and received a standing ovation from the audience.

David Nicholson

ART

British Sketchbook

Last month I visited Centre 181 Gallery in Hammersmith, run by the borough's Recreation and Leisure department. Before even seeing the exhibition I was struck, and much relieved, to find myself in a well-organised gallery space.

This is no town hall back corridor or echoing library stairwell. It is a small area, probably no more than ten by twenty-five feet, but it is uncluttered and well-lit with the work well hung. It sets an example which many would do well to follow.

The exhibition, *British Sketchbook*, was of drawings and paintings by Sally Booth. About half were done in London, where

she lives, and the rest come from her first working trip around Britain.

The British Sketchbook Tour, sponsored by National Express and others, was conceived to build up a very personal visual record of the country.

This idea is given an added dimension by the artist's eyesight. She describes her vision as unstable and fluctuating since a cataract operation three years ago, and she has been very short-sighted since birth.

The work forms a record of everyday things, ordinary sights and passing images that for some reason stay in the mind's eye. I felt immediately at home with it. This was partly because many of the places were familiar to me – Brixton, Brighton, Brick Lane.

But more important was the particular feeling I got from the work. It is hard to convey the joy of seeing immense cooling towers belching vapour, or the sharp glint of red as the sun catches the edge of a window frame through the grubby

windows of a bus. Some of these paintings manage to do it.

I think my favourite pieces were her watercolours of industrial monuments – bottle ovens in Stoke, brewery chimneys in Glasgow.

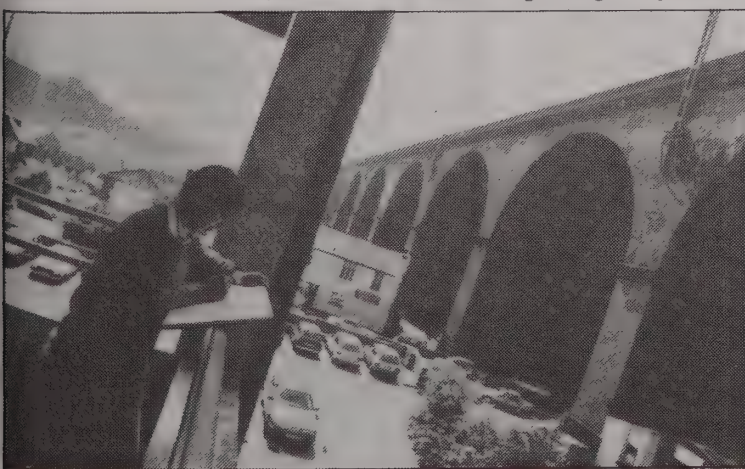
Painting from close-up and using flattened perspective, Booth exploits to the full her ability to see objects as blocks of colour with rough edges. The results are luminous paintings which can be read almost as abstract compositions whilst

keeping a definite sense of the place.

In the short tape accompanying the show the artist describes her work: "From power stations to parking meters, there is a common thread running through my work. I am trying to look at ordinary surroundings with a fresh eye. My aim is to combine my love of the everyday with a celebration of colour."

Her aim is true.

Adam Reynolds



Sally Booth conveying the joy of belching vapour

Lookout for...

World famous clarinetist Alan Hacker, who uses a wheelchair, has now turned to conducting. He conducts Opera North's *La Finta Giardiniera* by Mozart at the Grand Theatre, Leeds, tel: (0532) 459351. Performances on 6, 9, 12 and 19 October.

TV

Don't Just Sit There (C4, 16 June) followed the same pattern as the 1988 edition. It cut between coverage of a sports and leisure activities day and team competitions.



The mistakes were much the same as last years too: still the tendency to talk to non-disabled "experts" and to emphasise sports for those who are physically independent.

It was good that the interests of deaf people were included, but the way it was done was uneven.

While there were conversations with deaf participants, only some of them had sign language visible to the camera. At other points no provision was made at all for deaf and hard of hearing viewers, despite the fact that there was an interpreter on hand when the programme was recorded.

Presumably the inclusion of deaf participants was meant to motivate their counterparts among the viewing audience to follow suit and get involved in some sort of sport.

But if viewers cannot understand even the parts of particular relevance to them, never mind the whole programme, good intentions are wasted.

Suzanne Dando's chirpiness seemed initially patronising, but by the end seemed merely her natural manner.

I still think the competition element should be separated from the rest of the programme, and should be expanded into a *Superstars*-type series.

I did not see the earlier rounds by which Mary Elizabeth Raw reached the final of *Mastermind* (BBC1, 11 June). Congratulations are due not only to her for her achievement in winning this year's contest, but also to the organisers for the unobtrusive way her disability was incorporated within the format.

I hope her example will bear fruit and more disabled people will enter in the future.

Patrick Nuttgens is the David Bellamy of housing and architecture.

He has just begun a national series, *The Home Front* (BBC 2, 6 weekly programmes, beginning 27 June).

His academic and television expertise are as before. The difference is that he has acquired a disability and is a wheelchair user. I wonder if it will affect his comments?

Chris Davies

A documentary about the Everest expedition of John Hawkrige, the climber and mountaineer who has cp, will be screened on 9 August, 9.30pm BBC 1.

Same Difference returns to Channel Four on 2 October, 6.30 Mondays, 9.30 Saturdays.

Put yourself in the picture

Chairman CARS
— your key to greater mobility

- No. 1 in Europe
- Superb choice of models
- Demonstration anywhere in UK
- Excellent customer service

For your full colour brochures
Dial 100 & ask for
FREEPHONE CHAIRMAN CARS (24 hrs)
or complete the coupon and send to
GOWRINGS MOBILITY INTERNATIONAL FREEPOST (no stamp needed)
THATCHAM BERKSHIRE RG13 1BR

Name _____
Address _____
Tel. No. _____ DN8

Gowrings Mobility

Alan Toy

If he had not decided to be an actor, it would have been a tragic waste of Alan Toy's ability. He is creative, promotes himself effortlessly and looks like a mixture of Harrison Ford and John Denver.

He has a successful career in the United States. But he is also a diplomat, well known as a spokesman for performers and actors who, like himself (he has polio), are disabled.

Last month he was in this

country on a trip funded by the World Institute on Disability and Rehabilitation International.

Alan started out wanting to be a director in theatre, thinking that no audience would accept him if he actually appeared on stage. But in 1976, he got a non-disabled part and the audience reaction convinced him that his fears were misguided.

"You can't tell a book by its cover' holds very true for most disabled people, and unfortunately people look at the cover and instantly make judgements," he says. "I realised



Alan Toy: disability diplomat

that if I wanted to get beyond that kind of desultory acceptance, then I had better get over my own prejudice and disbelief in myself."

Of course, self-belief does not stop prejudice in others, and at least one drama school turned him away. Eventually, though, in 1979, he felt he had the training to move to Hollywood.

There he found roles in television and film and started his political activism on behalf of disabled people.

Initially he was involved with the Council of Disabled Artists.

Later, when the Council Merged with the Media Access Office, he became an honorary director of the new organisation.

The Office had been largely reactive and paternalistic, the main work being an annual awards ceremony. Then disabled people took over, it became more pro-active, benefitting many performers, including Alan.

The awards ceremony continues - this year's will be the eleventh. But the Office now organises performers' showcases for casting directors, producers, etc. It has over 300 actors, writers, directors and disabled media professionals on file.

The television industry listens. The number of nominees for the awards above shows how much disability drama there is in the States. Alan himself has played many non-disability roles.

But an imbalance exists. Drama is plentiful; television advertising increasingly includes disabled people; but factual programmes are few.

Hence Alan's British trip to investigate what is happening over here. He has found plenty of programmes, but questions their impact.

"I think they're great, a good forum for airing lots of different things. But I have a feeling that because of their placement in the scheduling, they have not had much of an impact.

"I'm sorry to say that. I would like to say that there is an obvious heightened and enlightened consciousness about disability in this country, but in fact I've found that there isn't."

American culture is more television orientated. So if factual disability programmes do arrive, they may change public attitudes. Given Alan Toy's advocacy, I think they will arrive.

Chris Davies

NO OTHER ORTHOPAEDIC FOOTWEAR RANGE SO CAREFULLY INCORPORATES FASHION AND OFFERS SUCH A CHOICE.

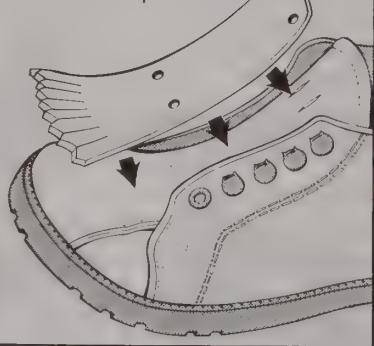
NEW



Boot with Velcro fastening



Boot with flaps



NIMCO
BY
CAMP

For further information, complete the coupon and send to: Camp Limited, FREEPOST, Northgate House, Staple Gardens, Winchester SO23 8ST.

☐ Please send sales literature and price list ☐ Please arrange for a sales call.

Name _____

Position _____

Hospital/Practice _____

Address _____

Tel: _____

DN8

6K thesaurus

The Disabled Living Foundation has brought out the first thesaurus on equipment for disabled people. It contains over 6,000 terms. £28.50 (incl. p&p) from DLF Publications, Haigh & Hochland, The Precinct Road, Oxford Road, Manchester M13 9QA.

Parcels of DN

Some readers receive several copies of *DN* every month.

We must account for every copy to the Audit Bureau of Circulations, to prove our circulation figure is accurate.

In future, we must ask those who receive more than one copy to keep a list of the recipients to show to ABC should they ask. If you need further information, please contact Gayle Mooney (address above).

Help!

The Post Office has introduced a new system called PRESSTREAM.

Publications like *DN* will have to pay more postage for labels with no postcode.

So if your postcode doesn't appear on your address label when you receive the paper, please return it to Gayle Mooney (address above) with the correct postcode added on.

THE CHANCE OF A LIFETIME FOR 1990

Does your employment or personal interest involve you in any of the categories below?
Could experience overseas help you in your job or your service to the community?
Then apply now for a Winston Churchill Travelling Fellowship.

OPEN—for projects in Europe,
preparing for 1992.

OPEN—for projects in New Zealand.

Trainers of Children's Choirs.

Craft Workers in the Building Industry.

Services, Employment and Recreation
for disabled people.

Roads—planning, construction and
maintenance.

Managers and Trainers of healthy leisure
activities.

Alcohol Abuse and Smoking.

Food Safety.

Farmers and Farm Workers.

Animal Husbandry—Humane, legal,
veterinary and health aspects.

Yacht and small craft designers, builders,
and sailmakers.

Open to all UK citizens.
No age limit. No special
qualifications.

Average stay overseas
eight weeks,
all expenses paid.

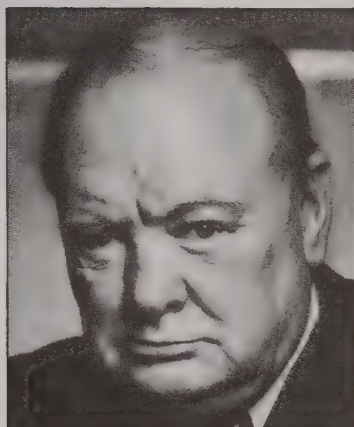


Photo by Karsh, Ottawa.

For further information
send S.A.E. to:
The Winston Churchill
Memorial Trust,
Dept. DN
15 Queen's Gate Terrace,
London SW7 5PR.

Applications considered from 1st September.
Closing date for completed application forms: 23rd October 1989.

Reha-Buggy

NOW YOU CAN
MEET YOUR CHILD'S
SPECIAL NEEDS...
AND STILL MEET THE
BUDGET.

For free catalogue or home demonstration
with no obligation, please contact:-

ORTHO-KINETICS

Care Chair Division, ORTHO-KINETICS (UK) LIMITED
Wednesfield, Wolverhampton WV13 3XA. (0902) 866166

Name _____
Address _____

DN7/89



With Mission '89 over and Dr Billy Graham, the evangelist, busy with his next assignment, this is probably an appropriate time to raise two queries that have recently been put to me.

Inevitably there are differing views about Billy Graham's particular style of preaching. For many, he is a man of God with special gifts, who has been used to challenge and bring Christian commitment to many thousands of people all over the world.

This year, through Livelink, Christian churches in and around London and in other areas have been actively involved in preparation for the Mission and follow-up afterwards. There should be a warm and well-organised welcome for newly-committed Christians in thousands of churches of all denominations.

But what about people who have disabilities? Have attitudes really changed? Is it still easier to "care for" rather than "share with"? Are Christians any better at accepting people as they are, with their own special gifts and needs?

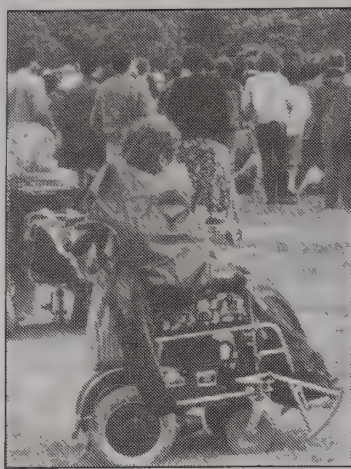
"We try to welcome everyone into our church, but it's sometimes quite difficult to keep the balance between our regular worshippers and those who have special needs.

I think we make people with physical disabilities feel at home and involved, but it is much more difficult with people who have psychiatric problems.

We have a few individuals attached to our church who can be quite disruptive and take up a great deal of time. But perhaps of more concern, many of our church members

Share Your Problems

with Margaret Morgan



Are Christians any better at accepting people as they are, with their own special gifts and needs?

find the problems they raise and the demands they make disturbing and don't know how to react.

Can you suggest how we can become better informed about psychiatric illnesses? We want to help but sometimes I think we add to the confusion."

Since the closure of long-stay hospitals many more people with recurrent psychiatric illnesses like schizophrenia are living in the community.

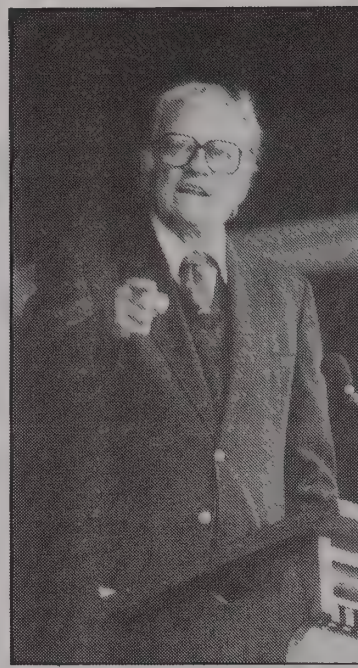
Some are undoubtedly seeking spiritual guidance and opportunities to share in worship. Others are looking for someone to take an interest in them and to listen.

It is important to understand about different types of mental illness and I suggest that your church should arrange for a talk from someone experienced in this field.

Many long-stay hospital chaplains are moving into the community and have special responsibilities for offering support and help to local churches and other organisations. So do find out if there is a community chaplain in your area or contact your nearest long-stay hospital.

MIND, the National Association for Mental Health, and the National Schizophrenia Fellowship have useful leaflets and both organisations have local branches all over the country.

It is important to look for ways in which people with special needs can help within the church environment. I heard a speaker suggest recently that special services for and involving people with psychiatric illnesses might be appropriate from time to time. Why not discuss this with your local community or hospital chaplain? He or she may well be glad to help.



SARAH FRANKLYN

"I watched the One in Four programme on BBC2 in June and was interested to hear a disabled clergyman say that he had moved a long way along his own spiritual journey since he had been confined to a wheelchair.

He also said some of his friends wanted to pray with him for his healing and that he had difficulty convincing them that God was using him as he was.

This is just how I feel. So many of my Christian friends want to see me changed and "cured" of my disability. In fact they often make me feel that it's my lack of faith preventing this miraculous change.

It's not that I like being disabled, but I do feel very strongly that this is how God has made me and how He wants to use me in His service.

Why can't people accept me as I am? I really do get tired of trying to explain my views and not appear negative about

spiritual healing, which I'm sure is right for some people."

I am glad you agree with the views of the Reverend Philip Ilott, who is chairman of Church Action on Disability (CHAD). The July issue of *All People*, the quarterly magazine of CHAD, focuses on wholeness and healing. I think you might find it interesting. Do send for a copy.

I also believe that in God's eyes we are all whole people, however we may appear to others. Yet healing does seem to be one of the spiritual gifts that we have been slow to recognise and accept.

It's all a question of being sure of God's will for us as individuals, isn't it? As for those who feel you ought to be different, maybe you should suggest that perhaps God wants them to think differently.

MIND, National Association for Mental Health, 22 Harley Street, London W1N 2ED, tel: 01-637 0741

National Schizophrenia Fellowship, 78 Victoria Road, Surbiton, Surrey KY6 4NS, tel: 01-390 3651

CHAD, Charisma Cottage, Drewsteignton, Exeter EX6 6QR, tel: (0647) 21259.

Margaret Morgan would welcome letters from women on their experiences of the menopause for a future article.

SHARE YOUR PROBLEMS BY PHONE

Talk to Lin Berwick, DN's telephone counsellor, herself disabled, on Monday afternoons, 1pm-5pm and Thursdays 6pm-10pm. Her telephone number is (04024) 77582.

BUILDING INDUSTRY GREAT PARK, WINDSOR HALF MARATHON

1pm, Sunday 1 October, 1989

Sponsored by

HIGGS AND HILL
CONSTRUCTION - PROPERTY - HOMES

LAINC

RMC

Redland



STAR RANK
HOT 100
British Association of Amateur Road Races
GRADE 1

All proceeds to THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

Dear Half Marathon Runner,

Welcome to the Building Industry Half Marathon in its new location, Windsor Great Park, and to those who have run in Windsor over the last seven years.

- The Race is open to all-comers: international and club athletes, company teams, fun runners and wheelchair competitors - BSAD and pushed.
- The Race will start at 1pm. The majority of the route is within the Great Park and is safe, scenic, undulating to hilly!
- Your signed entry form will signify compliance with AAA rules. Competitors must be a minimum of 17 years old.
- Closing date for entries 6 September 1989. Late entries will be accepted at organiser's discretion for £1 extra!
- Prizes will be awarded.
- All finishers will receive a memento of the race.
- The biggest prize of all, however, will go to the people who would find it very

Entry fee:
£5 affiliated
£5.50 unaffiliated

difficult to compete. For people with cerebral palsy our target this year is to raise £50,000, so they can live independently. We're banking on you!

- Fill in your entry form and give The Spastics Society your sponsorship.
- Each £25 raised gives FREE entry to prize draw for a CD player. £100 receives a special award and the highest figures raised will give you a chance of a trip to the New York Marathon.
- Children's Fun Run over 2.5 miles for 8-16 year olds. Ask for separate entry form.

Apply for entry form to:
Alysia Hunt, Race Director
The Spastics Society
PO Box 42,
Windsor, Berks SL4 2NN

IMMUNISATION

A report every health professional must read.

British immunisation rates are unacceptably low. What can be done to improve uptake levels?

A report from the Department of Paediatric Epidemiology, Institute of Child Health, London, headed by Professor Catherine Peckham, is the result of a two-year study - the most comprehensive of its kind ever conducted in Britain - commissioned by the charity Action Research for the Crippled Child.

The Peckham Report's wide-ranging recommendations will help to formulate future national policy.

The Peckham Report £10 (postage free) only from:

Action Research for the Crippled Child,
Vincent House, North Parade,
Horsham, West Sussex RH12 2DA.
Tel: (0403) 210406

ACTION
RESEARCH FOR THE
CRIPPLED CHILD



WHAT'S ON

Benefits review. Conference for people with disabilities to discuss the disability benefits review and propose alternatives. 2 September. Free. Contact Oxfordshire Welfare Rights (0865) 742244.

Outdoor mobility exhibition, 7 September. Display of adapted cars and caravans, wheelchairs and scooters, free admission. 10am-4pm. Details from Nottingham Resource Centre for the Disabled, Lenton Business Centre, Lenton Boulevard, Nottingham NG7 2BY, tel: (0602) 420391.

Meet a Micro – full day introductory course to using micro computers with physically disabled people. 9 September. No experience necessary. £40. Contact Mrs J Brown, Beaumont College, Slyne Road, Lancaster LA2 6AP, tel: (0524) 64278.

The employment of visually handicapped people, 9 September. Seminar for anyone with an interest in employment. Details from Kate Shelley, Flat 5, 43 Avenue Gardens, London W3 8HB, tel: 01-992 9921.

Disability and rehabilitation in the developing world. Forum for sharing ideas and looking at the issues around development and disability. 10-15 September, Launde Abbey, nr Leicester (accessible). Information from M Greenhalgh, IDEA, William House, 101 Eden Vale Road, Westbury, Wilts BA13 3QF.

Income generation, one day conference organised by the Disabled Living Centre's Council. Topics include: the dilemma of short term funding and the portrayal of people with disabilities in fundraising. 14 September at the Freeman Hospital, Newcastle upon Tyne. £30. Application forms from Miss L Sandles, The Dene Centre, Castles Farm Road, Newcastle upon Tyne NE3 1PH, tel: 091- 284 0480.

Kids Count Britannia Fun-day, 16 September, Battersea Park, London. For all children. Circus, funfair and celebrities. Details from Kids Count, 55 Glencoe Avenue, Newbury Park, Ilford, Essex IG2 7AL or tel: 01-377 7000 ext 4111.

Outward Bound Eskdale courses, specifically for physically disabled people aged 18-24. £259 + VAT. 26 August-2 September for people who are physically disabled but mobile and 18-25 September for people in wheelchairs who are capable of energetic crawling or hopping outside their chair. John Hawkrigge will be working with the staff. Further information from Bob Barton, Principal, Outward Bound Eskdale, Eskdale Green, Holmrook, Cumbria CA19 1TE, tel: (09403) 281 or John Hawkrigge, tel: (0274) 615 513.

European Academy of Childhood Disability, 21-23 September, St Catherine's College, Oxford. Meeting for doctors, therapists and teachers concerned with childhood disability. Fee: £100 for those with income of less than £15,000 pa and £150 for those over. Details from Olivia Plunkett, MEIU, Newcomen Centre, Guy's Hospital, St Thomas Street, London SE1 9RT, tel: 01-407 7600 ext 3632.

Sixth Sense Weekend Away, 22-24 Sept, Mason Hall, Birmingham University, tel: 01-278 1005 for details.

Communicating about augmentative and alternative communication. First national conference for people involved with severe speech loss and the techniques used to supplement or replace speech. 27-28 September at the University of Manchester's Institute of Science and Technology. Details from Steve Bates, ICAN, Allen Graham House, 198 City Road, London EC1V 2PH, tel: 01-608 2462.

Head-dressing at the Theatre Museum, Russell Street, London WC2. Every Wednesday in August 2-4pm for children of all ages to make hats and head-dresses. Workshops and materials free with museum ticket. Family tickets £3.50 or £5 (for 1 or 2 adults with up to 4 children). Under 5's free. Wheelchair and pushchair accessible. Phone Naomi Joshi on 01-836 7891.

Castle Priory
Holistic massage – introductory workshop. 30 August-1 September. Tuition £79, residence £57, non-residence £30.

Supporting people with disabilities in the community – for staff using or providing community services. 8-10 September. Tuition £75, residence £57, non-residence £30.

Normalisation principles in practice – for all staff in new community based services. 11-13 September. Tuition £85, residence £57, non-residence £30.

Individual programme planning – it is essential that participants have attended a previous Normalisation programme. 13-15 September. Tuition £83, residence £57, non-residence £30.

Goal planning (Houts & Scott method) – an introductory level workshop for staff from all disciplines. 27-29 September. Tuition £75, residence £57, non-residence £30.

Further information from Castle Priory, Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0HE. Please enclose SAE. Tel: (0491) 37551.

The RNID would like to hear about readers' experiences, good or bad, of using **hearing aids** – induction loops, text telephones, TV subtitles, amplifiers, flashing light alarm systems, vibration alarms and so on – for a major initiative to raise public awareness of these aids. Replies treated confidentially. Mike Wheeler, RNID, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH.

A national project to research **educational opportunities** for adults with learning difficulties (mental handicaps) wants to hear details of any work in this field. Contact Jeannie Sutcliffe, The National Institute of Adult Continuing Education, c/o SALP, Charles Street A.E. Centre, Luton LU2 0EB, tel: (0582) 22566.

I am compiling a book on **Disabled People's Experiences of Travel** for Rough Guides, to be published Spring 1990. People who want to contribute should write to me giving their name, address, age, cause of disability, travel they plan to undertake or have undertaken. (No articles at this stage, I will send out guidelines to contributors). Alison Walsh, 16 Startops End, Marsworth, Tring, Herts HP23 4LJ.

HELP

Please will any readers who are, or have been, involved in **fostering** children and young people with disabilities, write to me about their experiences; especially the sort of information they would like to be given before and during the placement and any particular problems. Information treated confidentially. Jane Mountney, National Foster Care Association, Francis House, Francis Street, London SW1P.

Disabled students in Portsmouth are looking for information on adapted buses to set up a telephone enquiry and **timetable service** run and used by disabled people.

Send any farecharts and timetables to Peter Grainger, Multi Media Centre, Wiltshire Street, Portsmouth, PO1 4BB.

Qualified designer wants to set up a **craft centre** where disabled people can learn, practice and sell a variety of crafts. Anyone willing to give help or advice on any aspect of this venture should contact Claire Roberts, 17

Chapel Road, Earith, Huntingdon, Cambs PE17 3PU.

A group of Christians who belong to a Reformed Baptist Church want to form links with other **disabled believers**. If you are interested please contact Annette Gilbert, 117 Holt Farm Close, Cookridge, Leeds 16.

Anyone interested in the formation of a disabled **sports and social club** in the Bridgwater, Burnham-on-Sea, Chard, Ilminster, Taunton, Wellington, West Somerset and Wiveliscombe area, should contact Philip Stevens, The Albemarle Assembly Rooms, Albemarle Road, Taunton, tel: (0832) 252945.

We are planning a **national resource list** of oral health initiatives for specific ethnic minority groups in the UK. Does anyone know of any such initiatives? We are also interested in material on other health issues for ethnic minority groups and suggestions on any health education issues in need of special development. Sonia Williams, Bradford Dental Health Education Service, 2nd floor, Joseph Brennan House, Sunbridge Road, Bradford, West Yorkshire BD1 2SY.



Park House
SANDRINGHAM

Book your
WINTER BREAK
now



The Country House Hotel
For Disabled People

Park House, on the Sandringham Royal Estate, provides first class holiday accommodation for physically handicapped people all the year round. Full day and night care and extensive leisure facilities are available. Relatives and companions are also welcome.

Take advantage of our off-season prices during the winter months.

Write or phone for colour brochure and tariff to:
General Manager, Park House, Sandringham, King's Lynn, Norfolk, PE35 6EH.
Telephone: Dersingham (0485) 43000

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY TO THE DIRECTOR OF MARKETING

£9474 – £10743 pa (under review) plus £1584 pa ILW

The Director of Marketing is looking for a confident but sensitive self-starter to provide him with comprehensive secretarial support. Candidates should have two to five years secretarial experience, "O" level Maths and English, typing at a minimum of 60wpm and Audio skills. This post provides one of the most senior secretarial opportunities in the Society.

MARKETING ASSISTANT

£10743 – £12333 pa (under review) plus £1584 pa ILW

Reporting direct to the Director of Marketing, the postholder will undertake a variety of tasks including research into new developments in charity fundraising and communications, preparation work for the major fundraising campaign and assisting in the preparation of the division's budgets. Applicants should be flexible, have degree level education or equivalent and a strong interest in fundraising. The successful candidate will also be able to work readily with figures and to communicate very effectively, especially in writing. This post will particularly suit someone with a little fundraising or general marketing experience who wishes to develop a career in these fields in the Society.

FUNDRAISING RESEARCHER

1 year fixed-term contract – salary negotiable.

Reporting to the Director of Marketing, the Fundraising Researcher's task will be firstly, to build up a fully costed list of new projects and services for offer to potential donors as part of the new major fundraising campaign; secondly, to develop a comprehensive but readily accessible, user-friendly and easily maintained databank of all the Society's activities. Candidates should have a background in similar research work, an interest in fundraising, be able to learn to use a computer for their work and be effective communicators, particularly in writing. They should preferably already have some knowledge of the Society's work.

PLEASE SEND A C/V TO VIVIEN BELL, TEMPORARY SECRETARY TO DIRECTOR OF MARKETING, THE SPASTICS SOCIETY, 12 PARK CRESCENT, LONDON W1N 4EQ. CLOSING DATE: 11 AUGUST.

THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

WORKING TOWARDS EQUALITY

Personnel Department**PERSONNEL OFFICER (MONITORING)**IN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES SECTION
c.£15,390 (Pay Award pending)

This busy office is part of a centrally based team providing a full range of personnel services and working closely with departmentally based Personnel Units. We are looking for an enthusiastic person to take responsibility for comprehensive monitoring of all aspects of the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy. This will involve experience in the use of a computer for implementation, maintenance and development of staff records systems.

Experience of analysing and interpreting computer based statistical information, including skills in the use of computers is essential. You should be able to demonstrate good written and oral communication skills, to draft concise, clear reports and the presentation of statistical data. Ability to use an Apricot micro computer with SuperCalc system would be highly desirable. Some experience in Personnel Administration and an understanding of the needs of a multi-racial environment would be desirable. It is essential that candidates are fully committed to and understand the Council's Equal Opportunities Policy and are able to accept responsibility for its practical application.

We particularly welcome applications from black and ethnic minorities, women and persons with disabilities as they are under-represented in the Department. Section 38 of RRA and section 48 of SDA applies.

Closing date: 18.8.89.

Ref: R3057/DN

WOMEN'S EQUALITY ADVISER (DISABILITY)

PO2 £15,015 - £16,254 inclusive plus casual car allowance

The Women's Unit of the London Borough of Waltham Forest is looking for a person with a disability to work as a Women's Equality Adviser (Disability) in a team of seven.

The post will involve work on issues of women's equality. This officer will take the lead on disability issues within the Unit and will play a full part in the work of the Unit. They will work closely with the Council's Disability Co-ordinator and will also liaise with community and voluntary sector groups working on disability issues. Applicants must be aware of the wide range of disability issues and be committed to achieving the full participation of disabled people. Experience of working with black and ethnic minority women would be an advantage.

Relocation expenses in approved cases.

Applications are restricted to candidates having a physical, sensory or hearing disability (registered or unregistered).

Closing date: 25.8.89.

Ref: H3058/DN

Application form and further details from the Recruitment Officer, Personnel Department, Town Hall, Forest Road, London E17 4JF. Tel: 01-531 8899 (24 hour answering service). Information on tape available.

Please quote appropriate reference.

These posts are available for job share.

Waltham Forest is a multi-racial area and we are anxious to ensure this is reflected in our workforce. All applications for jobs are considered on merit with equal opportunities for women, black and ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities.

**AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES EMPLOYER****WANDSWORTH DISABLEMENT ASSOCIATION
DEVELOPMENT/INFORMATION WORKER**

35 hours, Scale 6 (£12,327 incl)

To develop WDA's programme of responding to needs identified by people with disabilities, and promoting consultation and innovation by the statutory authorities and other agencies. You will undertake community development work in line with this programme, and co-ordinate the production and distribution of publicity and newsletter material. You will be expected to demonstrate an interest in one of the following: development work with ethnic minorities; education issues; employment issues; access and planning.

The post will be based in Balham, London SW12, where we are about to open a new meetings and activities building.

WDA is committed to promoting equal opportunities. The offices are accessible for people with disabilities who are particularly encouraged to apply.

For information and an application form please contact:

Development/Information Worker, WDA, 1c Yukon Road, SW12 9PZ; tel. 01-675 6521.

Closing date: first post, 7th August 1989

Social Services**Unit Supervisor**

474 Woodway Lane

£8,256-£10,407 or £11,106 depending upon qualification

474 Woodway Lane is a 36 bedded resource for adults with a physical disability. The resource is divided into 3 separate services comprising of a living-options service, respite/outreach service and a residential service.

A vacancy has arisen for a unit supervisor within the residential service. You will be jointly accountable for 18 clients and over 11 staff. Your task will be to assist our clients to achieve valued social rules and to introduce a realistic and 'normative' structure to the day for each individual within the service. You should have a positive informed view of the future directions and development of residential services.

Applications from people with disabilities will be particularly welcome.

Informal enquiries to Paul Martin.

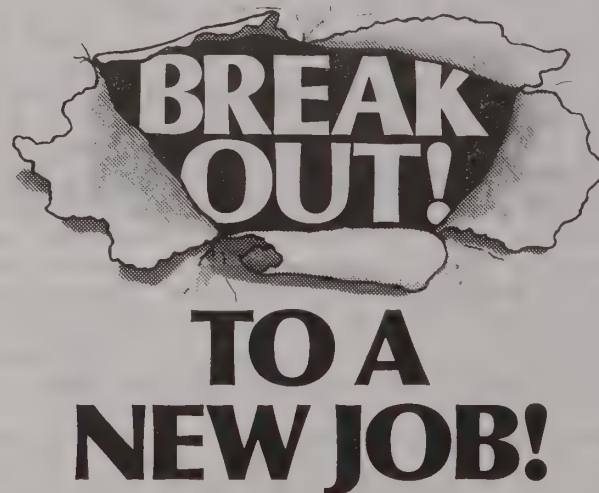
Tel: Coventry (0203) 618288.

Ref: SS/99/89

Application form and further particulars from: Director of Social Services, Room 29, New Council Offices, Little Park Street, Coventry. Tel: Coventry (0203) 833529.

Closing date: 31st July 1989.

We welcome applications from men and women regardless of disability, race or marital status.



The Ministry of Defence is the largest Government Department and it controls, administers, equips and supports the three Armed Services namely, the Navy, Army and Air Force.

To fulfil this task which is of paramount importance to each and every one of us, the Ministry's civilian staff perform a wide variety of duties, for example, the buying and selling of military equipment, the provision of supplies and transport, research and development of new weapon systems, personnel management, and finance and accounts.

We are looking for: Personal Secretaries, Administrative Officers, Administrative Assistants and Typist.

If you are looking for an interesting job with responsibility and promotion prospects, why not give us a ring? 01-430 7000/7001.

Ministry of Defence, LCMU 1, Sentinel House, Southampton Row, London, WC1B 4AX.

The MOD positively welcomes applications from individuals irrespective of disability, racial origin or sex.

• MINISTRY OF DEFENCE •

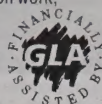
WOMEN IN MUSIC – ADMINISTRATOR

Salary c. £12,000 pro rata – Hours 36 pw – Open to Job Share

Women in Music is a developing national membership organisation which exists to raise the profile and awareness of women's involvement in all areas of music. Based in London, WiM is seeking an administrator/s to work alongside a Steering Committee to pursue its aims in establishing a membership and information network, developing strategies and contacts and running an office base. Applicants should have a keen interest in music allied to a strong awareness of women's issues. Experience in fundraising, PR and marketing, and/or a knowledge of education work, together with some basic finance and general office skills are desirable.

For full job description (also on tape) and application form apply to:
Women in Music, Battersea Arts Centre, Old Town Hall, Lavender Hill, London SW11 5TF. Tel: 01-978 4823 ans.

BAC has full disabled access.



TAKING YOUR PLACE IN TOWER HAMLETS

POPLAR – SOCIAL SERVICES

INSTRUCTOR (WOODWORK AND CARPENTRY)

£9,474-£10,812
 Ref: 320/8791528

William Brinson is a social education centre for adults with learning difficulties/mental handicap. It is open daily Monday-Friday and amongst other facilities has a fully equipped woodwork shop.

Some of the 80 clients using the centre would like you to work with them to produce good saleable wooden articles to help them start a small business. They need you to have an understanding of their particular difficulties, perhaps you have a physical disability or may have taken early retirement and are wanting to pass on your skills to others.

If so, for further information please contact Doris Richards, 01-515 2000 ext 244.

Job applicant packs are available from Personnel Section, Poplar Neighbourhood Centre, Bow House, 159 Bow Road, London E3 2SE or telephone 01-980 1063 (ansaphone) or 01-980 4414 ext 5605.

Please quote job reference. Completed forms must be returned by 28 July 1989.

The Councils recruitment and retention package could mean subsidised car leasing, a re-location package worth up to £6,000, bridging loan facilities, free life insurance, subsidised mortgage and travel allowance.

Tower Hamlets

Tower Hamlets has transformed local Government by decentralising service delivery and accountability to seven Neighbourhoods.

What Tower Hamlets is achieving today others will attempt tomorrow.

The commitment, energy, drive and innovation of staff are essential to our success.

Tower Hamlets is committed to effective implementation of its Equal Opportunities Policy.

Applications are considered on the basis of their suitability for the post(s) regardless of sex, sexual orientation, religion, racial origin, marital status, disablement or age.

All jobs are open to jobshare unless otherwise stated.



POPLAR neighbourhood



TEMPORARY DEVELOPMENT OFFICER (PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES)

Sc3/S02 £7509 – £13,887

Required until March 1990 to work with a team developing employment opportunities and enhanced service delivery for People with Disabilities in Sheffield. Will work closely with Departments of the Council and with the Community of People with Disabilities on specific projects leading to greater integration. Due to the temporary nature of the post specific projects will be identified which are likely to have a personnel bias. There may also be opportunities to develop skills in training on disability issues.

Applicants will be expected to work autonomously towards clear goals in a systematic way. Should possess communication skills with the ability to relate at all levels both on an individual and group basis together with a clear understanding of disability issues in their social and political context. Though no formal qualifications are necessary applicants should have evidence of an ability to start and finish a task within a complex organisational framework. A clear commitment to these issues is required and therefore this is restricted to people with disabilities who are eligible for registration under the Employment Act (Disabled Persons) 1944. Informal enquiries to Mr D Whitfield, tel 0742 735568.

APPLICATION FORMS AND FURTHER DETAILS FROM THE CHIEF PERSONNEL OFFICER, PERSONNEL DEPARTMENT, 3RD FLOOR, TOWN HALL EXTENSION, SHEFFIELD S1 2HH OR BY TELEPHONING THE JOB SHOP ON 0742 735417. COMPLETED FORMS TO BE RETURNED TO LIZ SNAPE AT THE ABOVE ADDRESS BY 16TH AUGUST.



Working towards equal opportunities. Job sharers welcome

COMPUTER SERVICES DEPARTMENT DATA PREPARATION OPERATORS

(Part Time) – Post No. N46

Salary: £6,830 – £6,918 (pro rata)

Duties includes the keying and verifying of data records using IBM 3742 data entry equipment. Future tasks may also include on-line data entry using Visual Display Units. You must have formal typing or keyboard training, and be able to work quickly and accurately to precise instructions. You must be aware of the demands/pressures of data entry work and have the personality to become part of a small but effective team.

The hours are 1700 to 2000 on a variety of evenings (minimum of 3) throughout the week. Please state your availability preferences when applying. Some overtime may be required particularly during peak holiday periods, (including Public Holidays).

There are a number of vacancies to be filled, some of which will be reserved for people with disabilities.

There are a number of other vacancies available as listed below:

Computer Operators – Post No. N33

Data Preparation/Control Assistant – Post No. N45

Systems Advisor – Post No. N52

Where relocation is necessary, expenses to a maximum of £2360 plus approved removal costs, together with help in finding temporary housing accommodation, are available.

Application forms (returnable by 11.8.1989) and further details for all the above posts are available from **Director of Personnel and Management Services, New Walk Centre, Welford Place, Leicester LE1 6ZG. Tel: (0533) 549922 Ext. 7099.**

Leicester City Council

Moving house?

Any change to your DN address label will be handled quicker if you send details direct to the Circulation Manager, Gayle Mooney, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ, tel: 01-636 5020, ext. 244.

PLEASE INCLUDE YOUR POST CODE!

COMMUNICATING ABOUT AUGMENTATIVE AND ALTERNATIVE COMMUNICATION

27-28 September 1989
 UMIST
 MANCHESTER

FIRST NATIONAL CONFERENCE
ISAAC>>UK<<
 International Society for Augmentative and Alternative Communication

In Association with

'I CAN'

INVALID CHILDREN'S AID NATIONWIDE

For further information about the conference contact – 'ISAAC UK CONFERENCE' I CAN, Allen Graham House, 198 City Road, London EC1V 2PH. Tel (01) 608-2462

Disability Now

Editorial Secretary up to £9675 (incl ILW) review pending

The leading publication in the disability field needs a super, enthusiastic, experienced secretary to cope with a busy office and write some of the listings. Shorthand, typing and word processing skills needed. Non-smoker preferred.

Applications welcomed from people with disabilities.

Forms from Gayle Mooney, DN, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ. Tel: 01-636 5030 ext 244. Closing date: 28 August.

LOOK HERE

You may be surprised at how many job opportunities exist at Brent – and at the sheer variety of work available. Whether you are qualified, experienced, looking for your first job or perhaps returning to work there may be something to interest you. So how do you find out more? We produce a weekly vacancy bulletin with full details of all existing vacancies which we will send you. Ring us on 01-903 0371 or return the coupon to:

Personnel Division, 5th Floor, Brent House, High Road, Wembley, Middlesex.

As women, black, Irish and disabled people are under represented in most areas, applications are especially welcome from these groups.

Brent is an equal Opportunities Employer. Applications are welcome from candidates irrespective of race, nationality, ethnic or national origins, age, marital status or gender and from lesbians and gay men and disabled persons. Job sharers welcome.

London Borough of
BRENT

Name _____

Address _____

Telephone _____

Ref: DN8

ACCESS OFFICER

Package up to £16,500 - including subsidised leased car (Pay award pending)

Wrekin Council is based in Telford, close to the world famous Ironbridge Gorge, set in the heart of rural Shropshire.

As part of our commitment to Equal Opportunities, and to improving the quality of service offered to our customers in all sections of the community, this new post has been created. Based in the Control Section, the Access Officer will be responsible for increasing awareness of the access needs and facilities of people with disabilities.

The duties of the postholder will include:

- The development of policies and good practice for approval by the Council which meet the need of people with disabilities.
- To bring about improvements in the access arrangements to existing buildings and ensure appropriate access and facilities are provided in new buildings.
- To identify sources of Grant Aid.
- To increase awareness of the needs of people with disabilities.

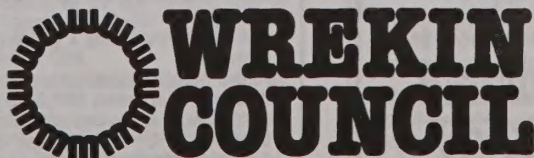
Applicants should have some specialised training and/or practical experience of problems faced by people with disabilities and hold a relevant professional qualification with substantial experience in Building, Architecture or Planning.

This post is available for Job Sharing in appropriate circumstances.

Closing date: 30th August, 1989.

For an application form and further details please contact Personnel Manager, Personnel Unit, Wrekin Council, P.O. Box 213, Malinslee House, Telford, TF3 4LL. Telephone Telford (0952) 203015 (24 hour answering service).

Wrekin Council is an equal opportunity employer and welcomes applications from all sections of the community.



KIRKLEES METROPOLITAN COUNCIL DIRECTORATE OF LEISURE SERVICES RECREATION OFFICER (DISABILITIES) POST NUMBER 372215

Salary: Scale 6 (£10,743-£11,475) per annum (pay award pending)

Suitably qualified and experienced applicants to join a small team of development officers who are involved in the development of both recreational facilities and opportunities. It is essential that applicants have previous experience of work with the client group and some knowledge, empathy and understanding of the leisure and recreational needs of people with disabilities. Applicants should be educated to degree level and possess a relevant professional qualification, e.g. Diploma in Youth and Community Work. Application forms and further details are available from the recruitment answering service, tel. Huddersfield 422133 ext. 3689 and returnable to the Director of Leisure Services, High Street Buildings, High Street, Huddersfield HD1 2NQ. Closing date: 10 days after the appearance of this advertisement. Vacancy No. LSV 1283. *Kirklees operates an equal opportunities policy full details of which will be supplied to all applicants.*



The Assistance Travel Service Ltd
1 Quarry View House, Tank Lane
Purfleet, Essex RM16 1TA
**HOLIDAYS FOR
THE DISABLED
AND THEIR ABLE
BODIED COMPANIONS**
CONTACT ALAN OR TONY ON (0708) 863198

TECHNICAL SERVICES

Management and Co-ordination Division Personnel Group

A number of posts are now available in the busy Personnel Team located at 25, Nelson Street, East Ham. The emphasis for all posts is on providing a high quality, competitive service to each of the six divisions which make up Technical Services. In addition to this "service ethos" you will have a deep commitment to the principles of equal opportunity.

Personnel Officers

£11,580 to £16,758 inc.

Please quote Ref: ES 491

You will be responsible for providing a comprehensive "front line" service to at least one of the divisions of the Directorate. It is essential you have a personnel background with the drive and confidence necessary to handle this responsible and demanding post.

Administrative Assistants

£7,755 to £11,943 inc.


Please quote Ref: ES 806

You will assist the administrative officer in providing an efficient and comprehensive range of administrative services. Particularly important will be a willingness to use information technology in an increasingly computerised office environment. You will have a sound grasp of office practices with the ability to deal tactfully with staff and members of the public.

Applications are welcome from all sections of the community, in particular from disabled candidates. Closing date: 11th August 1989.

For further details and an application form please reply to the Personnel Section, Technical Services Department, 25 Nelson Street, East Ham, E6 or tel 01 552 9213 (24 hour answerphone).

JOB SHARERS WELCOME.



**NEWHAM
COUNCIL**
THE HEART OF EAST LONDON
Committed to Equality

HOLIDAYS

RED CROSS HOUSE, Inverness, offers Respite/Care Activity holidays throughout the year to disabled people aged between 16 years and retirement age. A 24 hour care facility is provided by the skilled care staff and voluntary helpers. Accommodation is single hotel standard bedrooms. Whether your requirements are for outdoor adventure or something a little quieter, why not contact us for details of what we have to offer. For further information please contact Mike Webster on Inverness (0463) 234939.

SUNNY TENERIFE, Los Cristianos. As featured on TV and radio, the beautiful "Mar y Sol" Health and Fitness Resort. Purpose-built, totally wheelchair-accessible. Swimming pools, saunas, gymnasium, physiotherapy. Apartments for rent or ownership. I can arrange your flights too! BRILLIANT ... AMAZING! says BBC TV's The Travel Show. Come, see for yourself! Specially adapted taxi service from Tenerife airport. Video (£15 refundable deposit) brochure: Lynne James, 7 Overpool Road, Ellesmere Port L66 1JW. Tel: 051-339 5316.

TWO BEDROOM FLAT in converted barn in Peak District. 3 miles to Buxton.

SEND US YOUR SMALLS...

...and make a big impression. Small ads in DN reach over 80,000 people for just £2 a line (minimum £8). Please don't send money with your ad - we will invoice you after it goes in. Find a Friend is free, and all ads are free to members of The Spastics Society and affiliated groups. Phone 01-636 5020 ext 245.

Sleeps 4+ cot. Available June onwards. £100-£140. Tel: Buxton (0298) 70141.

NORTH DEVON - Self catering cottages sleeping 4/6 (2 specially designed for wheelchairs). Fully equipped & heated - linen provided. Peaceful country setting for touring Exmoor, Dartmoor and Devon coast. Brochure from South Coombe Farm, Witheridge, Tiverton, Devon EX16 8QL. Tel: (0884) 860302.

HOLIDAY PLAYScheme for children with special needs in Paignton, Devon. Open from 7-28 August. Details from Maggie Tomlinson on (0803) 863071.

HOLIDAY CARAVANS, near Aber-gale, Wales. Fully equipped for people with disabilities and their families, inc. connecting ramp, washer, TV etc. Easy

access to beach and railway station. For rates and reservations, contact Mr W Younger, tel: (0200) 41319.

HAVE YOU TRIED a Winged Fellowship Holiday in Britain or Overseas? Great fun and full care provided. Write for free colour brochure: Winged Fellowship, Angel House, 20/32 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD, tel: 01-833 2594 (May 1990 onwards 071-833 2594).

FOR SALE

BROTHERWOOD CONVERSIONS have for sale a wide range of second hand converted vehicles for transporting the wheelchair bound, from £3,500. For a detailed list please phone (0935) 872603 or send SAE, Brotherwood Conversions, Station Garage, Yetminster, Sherborne, Dorset DT9 6LH.

ELECTRIC WHEELCHAIRS/ Scooters/Battery cars. All makes, models wanted and for sale. Nearly new, hardly used, from half price. Demonstrations and collections. Free advice. All areas. Contact Mr Gibbon. Tel: 021-357 4965 anytime.

EVEREST & JENNINGS Buggy. 2 years old. In immaculate condition. Cost £1,745, will sell for £1,000 ono. Tel: Kingswood (0737) 357885.

GREENFORD. Charming detached bungalow. 3 beds, ch, ideal wheelchair user. Level site, wide doors, completely renovated to high standard. Viewing recommended. £137,000. Carter 01-578 0910.

FORD ESCORT 1.6L. Automatic Estate, red, Dec 1985, 22,000 miles only, P.A.S., cruise control, electric windows.



LONG HOT SUMMER?

**COURTYARD/GARDEN
OR OTHER GROUNDS?**

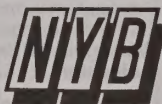
**NEED AN OUTDOOR
TABLE THAT WHEELCHAIR
USERS CAN USE?**

OUTDOOR TABLE FOR WHEELCHAIR USERS

- Seats 6 people including two wheelchair users
- Durable wooden construction
- Stable design
- Long lifetime, can be left permanently outside
- Available in preserved Pine or Cedar
- Dimensions variable to suit wheelchair size
- 12 month guarantee
- Price £230 - Pine £299 - Cedar

Negotiable on multiple orders

**TO PLACE AN ORDER OR FOR
FURTHER DETAILS TELEPHONE
01-400 9522 OR WRITE TO TMS
30 MERLIN CLOSE, NORTHOLT,
MIDDLESEX UB5 6JG**



INFORMATION IS OUR BUSINESS

The National Youth Bureau provides information, publications and training on issues affecting young people and youth work practice.

We now need

TWO INFORMATION OFFICERS

to join a busy team of six searching out relevant information, answering enquiries and writing high quality materials on current issues. One of the posts will be responsible for producing a newsletter for Black youth and community workers for which knowledge and experience of Black communities is needed.

If you can work flexibly, are committed to equal opportunities and have the capacity to acquire national expertise on a number of key issues, these exacting and rewarding posts will interest you.

Salary £10,743 - £13,887, starting point dependent on age and experience.

For further details and application form please contact the Personnel Dept, National Youth Bureau, 17-23 Albion Street, Leicester LE1 6GD.

Tel: (0533) 471200 ext. 311.

Closing date: 18th August 1989.

NYB is an equal opportunities employer. People from Black and ethnic minority communities and people with disabilities are under-represented within NYB and their applications are particularly welcome. All posts are open to job-share unless otherwise stated.



GLAD is an independent co-ordinating agency of borough based and London-wide disability organisations working to improve the position of people with physical, mental, learning and sensory disabilities in London. We develop our work in consultation with disabled people and their representatives and are committed to enabling all sections of the disability community to participate in and have access to our work at all levels.

HEAD OF FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION

S/he will have day to day responsibility for management of all financial and administrative matters throughout the agency. S/he must have experience and knowledge (paid/unpaid) of: ★preparation of accounts, budgets and forecasts ★good accounting practise ★company law ★managing staff and resources (training and support will be given). S/he must be willing to learn about: ★charity law ★voluntary sector finance ★funding applications ★servicing committees ★employment and health and safety law ★office systems ★equal opportunities practise. S/he must be able to: ★work well with individuals and groups ★communicate effectively ★plan, organise and evaluate workloads ★delegate. S/he must be committed to: ★the rights of disabled people ★equal opportunities for all sections of the community ★participative management. Salary: NJC Scale P01 £15,081-£16,143 p.a. (inc. London Weighting) Closing Date: 11th August, 1989. Preference will be given to disabled applicants who meet the essential requirements.

TRANSPORT POLICY OFFICER (PART TIME)

We are looking for a disabled person, who has an awareness of the problems facing disabled people using transport, to work the equivalent of two days a week to assist in the development, implementation and promotion of GLAD's policies on transport and mobility. S/he will (with administrative support) service GLAD's Transport Reference Group, prepare papers and liaise with GLAD members and appropriate statutory and voluntary sector agencies. S/he must have: ★experience of disability ★knowledge and awareness of the problems facing disabled people in using transport ★experience (paid/unpaid) of policy development/implementation in voluntary/statutory sector ★knowledge of transportation systems. S/he must be able to: ★promote and represent the rights and needs of disabled people ★interpret complex documents ★write formal reports ★communicate effectively ★organise, prioritise and plan workloads ★liaise with organisations and individuals. S/he must be committed to: ★the rights of disabled people ★equal opportunities of all sections of the community ★the view that transport is key to disabled peoples' participation in a civilised city ★collaborative working. Salary: NJC Scale 6 £12,327-£12,569 p.a. pro rata (including inner London Weighting). Hours: 2 days equivalent. Closing date: 4th August, 1989. GLAD considers having a disability to be a genuine occupational qualification for this post and, therefore, only disabled people will be considered. Further details and application forms for these posts (available also on tape) from: Greater London Association For Disabled People, 336 Brixton Road, London, SW9 7AA. Tel: 01-274 0107. GLAD is working towards becoming an equal opportunities employer and we particularly wish to encourage applications from people from black and ethnic minority groups. Our offices are fully accessible and every effort will be made to meet individual needs. Section 38(1)(b) Race Relations Act 1976 applies to this post. GLAD receives funding from the London Boroughs Grants Scheme.

Car-chair system for front passenger. Original price £12,500 asking price £5,000 ovno. Tel: Stockton (0642) 781310.

BLUE BATRICAR, with shopping bag on back, leg cover, battery and charger. Little used, £400 ono. Tel: Tiverton (0884) 255243.

BATRICAR. 4 years old, vgc. Bargain £550 ono. Tel: (0252) 24936. Aldershot.

Disability Now is not responsible for claims made in the advertisements it prints and all readers are advised to check claims with the advertisers before relying on them.

TO ADVERTISE IN DISABILITY NOW CLASSIFIED

Please contact the
Advertisement Manager,
Jonathan Wine,
Kingslea Press Limited,
12 Dock Offices,
Surrey Quays,
Lower Road,
London SE16 2XL
Telephone:
01-252 1362
Fax: 01-237 8019

EVERAID TURBO wheelchair. 3 years old. Red. Suitable for child up to 8 stone average. A few scratches. 3 batteries, seat cover, standing frame, 5 programmes all included. New seat will need to be obtained from Everaids. £1,200 ono. Tel: Ashted, Surrey (0372) 276063.

TRAILER especially made for Everaids Turbo wheelchair. Drop door, fully enclosed. Could be used for any electric wheelchair. Approx measurements 4'x3'x3' £200 ono. Tel: 061-904 0863.

ELSWICK ENVOY B reg. 8,400 miles. Tax and MOT. **VESSA VITESSE** electric wheelchair and charger. All in excellent condition. Around £3,500. Tel: 01-367 8458.

ELAP ROTATING passenger seat, for Metro. £150 ono. Tel: 01-363 7451.

NISSAN PRAIRIE 1.5SGL with ramps, vgc. Only 20,700 miles. Under warranty. £5,200. Tel: Woking (04862) 5436. Available late August.

PAVEMENT VEHICLE. Sportster electronic tricycle, recommended by Banstead Mobility Centre. Hardly used. Cost over £1,700, accept £1,000 ono. Tel: 01-959 1953.

MINI CLUBMAN ESTATE V reg. Converted to take person in wheelchair, viewing windows, low mileage, £900. Please contact Mrs B M Slattery, The Horder Centre for Arthritics, Crowborough, East Sussex, tel: (0892) 665577.

FIAT FIORINO van, B reg. Converted to carry wheelchair patient. Ramps and power winch make entry effortless from rear. 42,500 miles, new MOT. 1 lady owner. £1,800, tel: Tisbury (0747) 871095.

ELVA DE LUXE SCOOTER with charger and front basket. Recent service. Extra puncture protected tyres. Cost £1,200, bargain at £600 ono. Tel: Elland (0422) 376001.

VESSA VITESSE kerb climber electric wheelchair. Indoor and outdoor use. Good condition. £550. Tel: Derby (0332) 669702.

NIPPI MOTOR TRICYCLE. Ex-demonstration model, only 184 miles. Can be driven from your wheelchair. Genuine reason for selling. £1,450 ovno. Tel: Mansfield (0623) 28883.

ELSWICK ENVOY disabled car. A reg. Low mileage. As new, £2,000. Tel: 01-527 6310.

VESSA VITESSE Mk III. Powerstar wheelchair, immaculate, hardly used, 18 months old. Climbs kerbs will cover approx 15 miles. £995 ono. Tel: Cranleigh (0483) 274659.

POYNTINGS CONVERTED METRO, takes a wheelchair used by a six foot adult, three other adults. 2 years old, 20,000 miles. Offers £4,995 (list price £7,925). Stuart 01-748 3020 ext 3879 (work), 01-644 5104 (home).

WANTED

THOMAS DELARUE SCHOOL. Were you a pupil from 1958 to 1962? Old boy/researcher would like to hear from you. Box No 220.

FIND-A-FRIEND

DOES ANYONE KNOW the whereabouts of Claire Riberio-Ayeh, previously from Leatherhead, Surrey, who went to school in Tonbridge? Sharon Nisbett would like to find her. Box No 221.

YOUNG DISABLED FEMALE living in Essex would like an able-bodied male friend aged 19-23, preferably one who can drive and has a good sense of humour. Interests include music and socialising. Box No 222.

DISABLED MUM of 1 (housetrained) son, needs an honest man capable of driving mini-bus type vehicle for companionship and view to marriage. Easy-going manner and friendly disposition, not a heavy drinker. I like committes, parties, countryside, history and visiting or just driving. Box No 219.

MALE, 40, very lonely, lives in nice place on East coast, would like to meet female friend, slightly disabled or able-bodied. Likes driving, music, walking, animals – would like photo. Box No 223.

DISABLED LADY, 56, wheelchair user and car driver, seeks nice friendly male for outings and companionship. Likes the theatre, travel, environment issues, loves the countryside. Box No 224.

RETIRED LADY seeks gentleman 60+ for companionship, possible outings. Varied interests. Osteo-arthritis that comes and goes, no detriment at the moment. Box No 225.

INDEPENDENT MALE, 30, happy, kind and loving seeks similar friend. Enjoys snooker, pool, darts, holidays, TV and music. Has own place. Box No 226.

DISABLED MALE, RETIRED. Physically disabled only. Own home and vehicle, seeks female for companionship-friendship, perhaps lasting relationship, must be able to travel. No caring required. Possible accommodation to right friend. Box No 216.

To reply to a Find-a-Friend, indicate the Box No, mark the envelope Private & Confidential and send it to DN, address on page 24.

CO-ORDINATOR/ANIMATEUR Scale 5 (SCP 22)

HUMBER ART & CRAFT INITIATIVE

A co-ordinator/animateur is required for a recently established Charitable Trust working in Humberside to promote art and craft initiatives in all sections of the community, with particular reference to people with disabilities. Applications by CV with covering letter by 7th August 1989. Further information from Carlo Corby. Interviews will take place 9th August 1989.

(An equal opportunities employer, HACI will take appropriate steps to accommodate any special needs requirements for the successful applicant. Job share proposals considered.)

Suite 17, Hull Business Centre, Guildhall Rd, Hull HU1 1XJ. (0482) 219644

CASE MANAGER – Choice The Case Management Service, a voluntary organisation, is looking for a **CASE MANAGER** to work in a 3 year pilot service in Barnet. The case manager will work in partnership with people with a disability, linking individuals to all the services they require. The case manager should have direct experience of a disability and have worked in the voluntary or public sector. S/he needs to be able to work flexibly, creatively and with sensitivity. 21 hours per week. £15,000 p.a. pro rata.

Enquiries and application form from Choice, 152 Camden Road, London NW1 9HL. Tel: 01-482 3687.

DIAL — Waltham Forest

Registered Charity No 293154

DISABLEMENT INFORMATION AND ADVICE LINE – WALTHAM FOREST INFORMATION WORKER

(36 HRS. PER WK. £10,743 + O.L.W. + PENSION)

This job is restricted to a person with a disability

We are looking for an information Worker to join our team at D.I.A.L. The person appointed will provide a specialised disability information service to the Disablement Information & Advice Line, support the D.I.A.L. Volunteers with accurate up to date information, update and extend the computerised database of information and provide administrative support to D.I.A.L.

No formal qualifications are required for this post. D.I.A.L. is an equal opportunity employer and would particularly welcome applications from members of the Asian or Afro-Caribbean community.

For application form and further details contact:

D.I.A.L. – Waltham Forest, Disability Resource Centre, 1A Warner Road, Walthamstow, London E17 7DY.

Tel: 01-520 4111. Minicom Tel. No: 509 0925

Closing date: 18th August, 1989.



DISABILITY EQUALITY TRAINING

London Borough of Brent invites tenders for up to £5,000 worth of Disability Equality Training. Here is an opportunity to assist a major employer and service provider to challenge existing practice and implement change.

Trainers must be disabled people and should have experience of designing and delivering related training. This pilot project will target managers and front line staff and must be completed by 31st March 1990. Tender specifications are available from:

**C.I.P.R., Brent House,
349-357 High Road, Wembley,
Middlesex HA9 9BR**

**Or contact MIKE HIGGINS –
Tel No. 908 7143**

All bids must be submitted by 31st August 1989.

HARINGEY COUNCIL CHIEF EXECUTIVE'S SERVICE PRINCIPAL COMMITTEE SECRETARIES

£14,334 – £16,254 (Pay award pending)

Two required, one to service the Council's Race Equality Committee and subsidiary bodies including a Consultative Forum of council members and community representatives, and the second to service the Lesbian and Gay Sub-Committee and the Personnel Panel (Health and Safety) a member level body which meets with representatives of all the recognised Trade Unions on Health and Safety matters.

In addition to the preparation of agenda, and reports, the strategic work of these two posts requires the ability to initiate action, co-ordinate and monitor progress, good communication skills and an ability to meet deadlines. Considerable experience of Committee work in a local authority or similar organisation is essential and you should have direct experience of and empathy with the black and ethnic minority communities in respect of the first post and the lesbian and gay communities for the second post.

Closing date: 11th August 1989.

SENIOR COMMITTEE SECRETARY

£12,771 – £14,724 (Pay award pending)

Required to service the Under Sevens Sub-committee, Inner Area Programme Sub-committee and Soubury Joint Consultative Committee, a joint negotiating body comprising Members and Trade Union Representatives.

For this level applicants should be experienced in Committee administration preferably in Local Government and be able to work with minimal supervision.

Closing date: 11th August 1989.

COMMITTEE SECRETARY

£10,311 – £12,312 (Pay award pending)

Required to service certain subsidiary bodies in the Community Services Group which is responsible for servicing the Education, Social Services, Community Affairs and Environmental Protection and Public Health Committees.

You should have had some experience of committee work and be able to prepare reports agenda and minutes.

Closing date: 11th August 1989.

For all these posts, attendance at evening meetings will be required for which time off in lieu or payment is granted.

For an application form and further particulars please telephone 01-881 6065 (24 hour answering service) indicating the post in which you are interested and quoting reference number (if applicable).

Applications are particularly welcomed from people from black and minority ethnic communities, people with disabilities, lesbians, gays and women.

HARINGEY: WORKING TOWARDS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES



OUTSET OFFICE SERVICES CO. LTD.

Based in SE8 and staffed by some 40 skilled disabled people, OOS offers a 'one-stop shop' for direct mail, reprographics, word and data processing and financial services. The company is now looking to recruit for the post of:

HEAD OF MAILING SERVICES £10,311–£12,312

To ensure effective day-to-day operation of the Mailing and Reprographic Department. Duties include supervising a small staff team, setting up and routine maintenance of mailing equipment, scheduling work, setting and operating work quality standards, achieving customer deadlines.

This is a new post with scope for development in an expanding company. Technical support is provided. Ability to operate machinery is essential.

For information contact **Linda Fowler, OOS, Drake House, 18 Creekside, London SE8 3DZ. Tel: 01-692 7141.** Closing date: 16 August 1989.

Outset is an equal opportunities employer – premises wheelchair accessible – disabled drivers parking available – flexible working arrangements considered – induction and training available. Applicants with a disability are particularly welcomed.

Sparky Project, Glasgow

Part-Time Project Worker

The Sparky Project aims to promote equal opportunities for disabled children through advocacy work, training and direct service delivery.

Joining an established team, you will be engaged primarily on the development and production of resource materials for use in play and educational settings and the development of disability awareness training programmes for those working with children.

You should be able to produce training and publicity materials, collate and organise information and be an effective communicator, oral and/or written.

Personal experience of disability or knowledge gained working in this area would be of relevance to this post, so applications from disabled candidates are particularly encouraged. Training or experience in teaching, groupwork, play or advocacy would also be advantageous.

Starting salary £5,593 per annum (22 hours per week) linked to NJC point 20 (under review). Current incremental range £5,593 – £6,542.

Job description and application form available from Aileen Hazlett, Administrative Assistant, SCF, 21 Alva Street, Edinburgh EH2 4PS. Tel: 031 225 3755.

Closing date for applications is 25th August, 1989.

SCF aims to be an equal opportunities employer.

**Save
the
Children**



Families with disabled children are struggling

Parents with a disabled child living at home are more likely to be unemployed and if they have jobs, are likely to earn less than parents in general.

This is one of the main findings in the fifth Office of Population, Censuses and Survey report on the financial circumstances of families with disabled children at home, published in June.

One third of the parents interviewed felt their child had needs related to disability that they were unable to meet. A third of families got income maintenance benefit and a fifth disability costs allowance.

Over half the parents thought that they were just getting by financially and nineteen per cent thought they were getting into financial difficulties, which was born out by debt and arrears.

The research for the report was done in 1985, before the benefits re-organisation which many disability groups claim has left disabled people and carers worse off.

The report found that the majority, 81 per cent, of families with a disabled child were two parent. But compared with the general population, families were more likely to be single-parent if they had a disabled child.

While over three-quarters of single parent families lived on benefits, they had a similar income to single parents in general.

The more severe a child's disability, the more money parents spent on the extra costs of disability - on average £6.54 per week, varying from £4.55 to £12.53. Families with the lowest incomes spent the most on

disability costs.

Commenting on the report, Nicholas Scott, Minister for Social Security, said: "The report contains detailed information. It does not however take account of the financial value of services received by families with a disabled child."

He said that social security reforms had targeted increased help on families. "This year's uprating targeted further help on families by adding an extra 50p to child allowances in income support, family credit and housing benefit."

But Carey Oppenheim, research officer at the Child Poverty Action Group, said: "Even since the benefit changes, many of the problems described in this report still exist. The new system does not adequately address the problems of poverty for disabled children."

Other findings in the report are that married couples with only the disabled child had the highest equivalent incomes, £115.76. Married couples with more than one child had much lower incomes, £89.79, and single parent families the lowest, around £79.01 per week.

The third OPCS report found that around 354,000 disabled children live at home, an underestimate according to the London Boroughs Disability Resource Team. Only 2 per cent live in institutions.

(The final report appeared too late for this month's *DN*.)

The financial circumstances of families with disabled children living in private households, HMSO, £9.



Team spirit: Liverpool manager Kenny Dalglish (centre) congratulates seven information technology trainees from Middlesex Training Centre on winning the 1989 Industrial Society team Youth Trainees Award. They set up "Jasonaid", a small company producing badges, posters and handbills, to buy fellow trainee Jason Bennington (in striped shirt) a petrol driven pavement vehicle. Jason has cp and several of the team have learning difficulties.

Enterprise fund

The Royal National Institute for the Blind (RNIB) has received a huge boost to its Small Business Unit, after Barclays Bank sponsored a new £80,000 initiative.

The money will fund new businesses run by blind people in the UK. *DN*'s telephone counsellor Lin Berwick attended, and said: "It will help blind people have the confidence of their own convictions, and to get away from traditional blind jobs like basket making and piano tuning."

RNIB, tel: 01-388 1266.

Disability Now

Published by The Spastics Society, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ.
Tel: 01-636 5020.

Editor Mary Wilkinson
Assistant Editor Geraldine Holden
Reporter David Nicholson
Editorial Secretary Alison Eastgate
Circulation Gayle Mooney
Advertising Jonathan Wine, Kingslea Press Ltd., 12 Dock Offices, Surrey Quays, Lower Road, London SE16 2XL. Tel: 01-252 1362.

Typesetting by FMT Graphics Ltd., 182 Union Street, London SE1.
Printed by Goodhead Group plc, Bicester, Oxon.

The views expressed in *Disability Now* are not necessarily those of The Spastics Society.
Copyright © 1989 The Spastics Society.



Please help us to continue sending *DN* free to low income readers by subscribing now

(Quote reference number from label if possible)

Disability Now

is the paper for news, views, arts, sports, fashion, jobs, equipment and sharing problems.

Order yours now!

DISABILITY NOW ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Please return this form to Disability Now, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ with your remittance made payable to THE SPASTICS SOCIETY.

Name _____ (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Address _____

Postcode _____

Disability and/or profession _____

Please tick ☐ Individual £6 ☐ Organisation £10

☐ Overseas £10 (Sterling)

I/We enclose ☐ Cheque/P.O. ☐ Bankers Order (see below)

☐ A donation towards costs £ _____

I authorise you to charge my ☐ VISA ☐ ACCESS

Account No. _____

Expiry Date _____ Signature _____

ANNUAL BANKERS ORDER

DISABILITY NOW

Return to Disability Now, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ, not to your Bank.

Name _____

Address _____

Postcode _____

Your Bank Account No. _____ Sort Code _____

To the Manager _____ (Your Bank)

at _____

Postcode _____

Please pay to the account of The Spastics Society (12729280) National Westminster Bank Plc, Euston Centre Branch (60:50:03) London NW1 3BA the sum of

£ _____ (Amount in words)

on _____ 198 _____ and thereafter on the same day each year until further notice.

Signature _____

FOR BANK USE ONLY
QUOTE REF.

DN

Please ensure that all parts of the form are completed and any alterations initialled. Disability Now is a non-profit publication. Receipts on request. Sorry, no refunds.

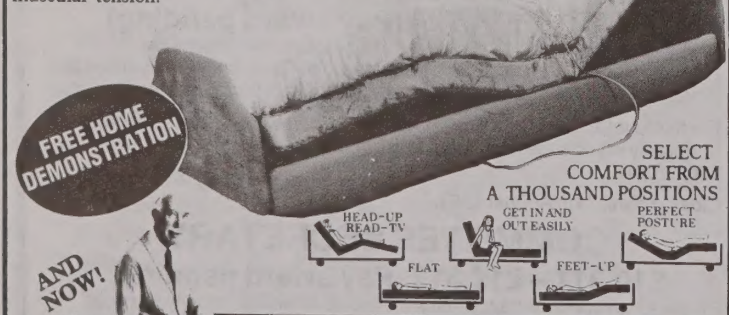
THERAPOSTURE

Independence in the home at the touch of a button

There is a Theramatic specification for many uses in Domestic, Residential/ Nursing Homes and for the chronically disabled, under-bed clearance allows for the feet of a hoist. Variable height is available.

Independence is a boon at home, and in the Nursing Home, benefits staff utilisation.

Chest and spinal conditions are eased 'at the touch of a button'. An optional message unit will aid circulation without raising the heartbeat and relieves muscular tension.



The Theralift Seat Lift Chair.
A finger on the button and you are automatically lifted to a standing position.

'SITS YOU DOWN' 'STANDS YOU UP' NICE & GENTLY
An ideal gift from all the family

SEND FOR FREE BROCHURE
Theraposture Ltd., FREEPOST, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 9YT
Please tick— BED ☐ CHAIR ☐
Name _____
Address _____
Tel. _____

Theraposture Ltd., FREEPOST, Warminster, Wiltshire BA12 9YT. Telephone: (0985) 213440 Telex: 444337 - ACTBUS